# AKIRA 24™

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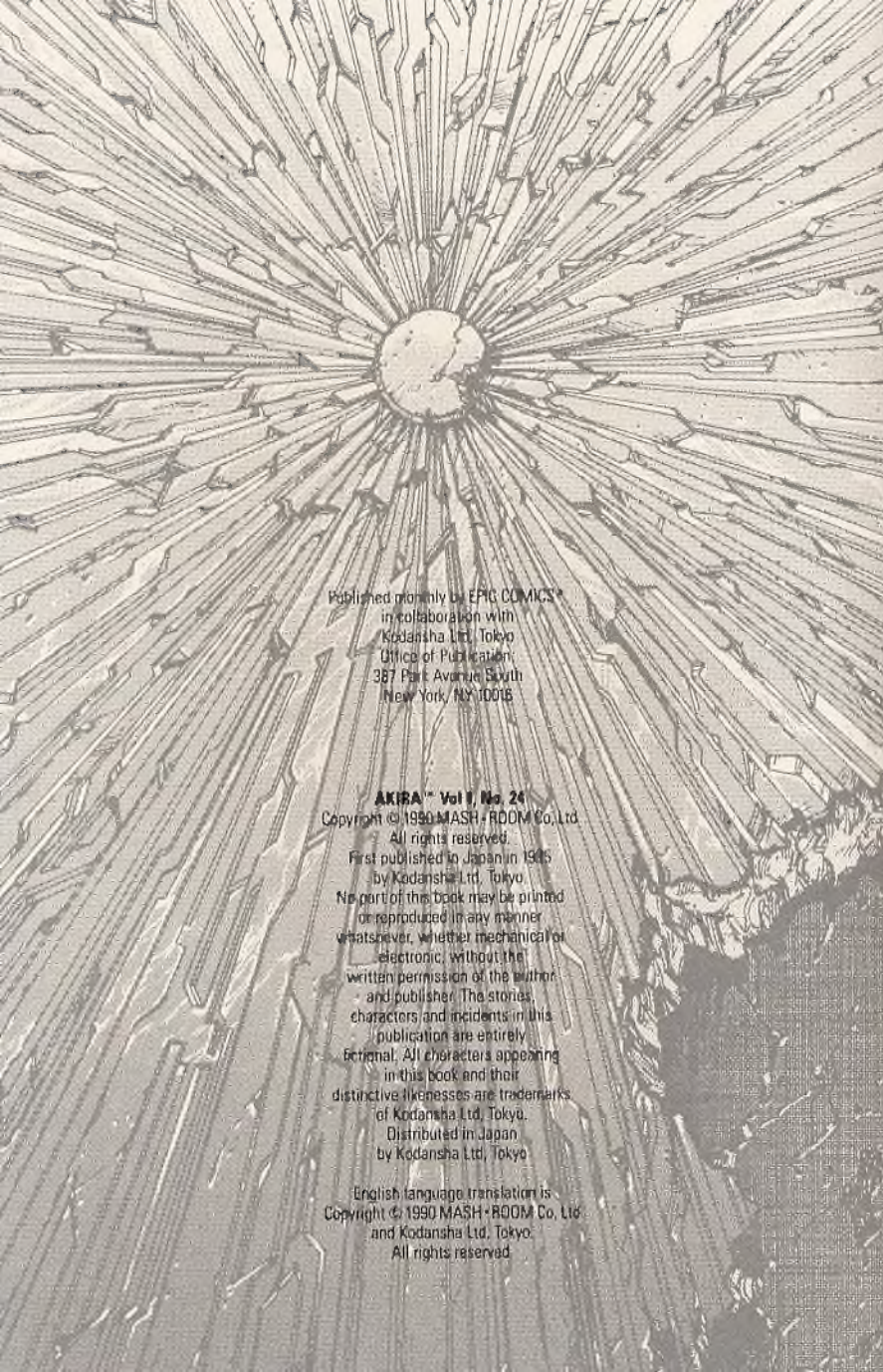
KATSUHIRO OTOMO



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## WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

Twenty-thirty. The world hovers on the brink of World War IV. In a section of **Neo-Tokyo** known as the "old city"—where, thirty-eight years before, the destruction of World War III began—a band of teenaged delinquents led by **Kaneda** encounter **Number 26**—a child named **Takashi** who uses extraordinary telekinetic abilities to injure **Tetsuo**, one of Kaneda's close friends.

As a result **Kaneda** and **Tetsuo** become entangled in a power struggle between a mysterious military and scientific organization led by the **Colonel** and an underground resistance group bent on putting a stop to the Colonel's activities. Members of the resistance include **Kay**, **Ryu**, and a formidable woman named **Chiyoko**. Among their superiors is the blind **Lady Miyako**—a powerful religious leader with strong precognitive gifts.

The **Colonel** has a number of psychic children under his control. **Takashi**, **Kiyoko**, and **Masaru** are identified by numbers marked on their hands. **Lady Miyako** was, at one time, **Number 19**. **Number 28** is **Akira**, so powerful that since the war he has been suspended in cryogenic sleep.

The Colonel's staff conducts experiments which awaken tremendous telepathic potential in **Tetsuo**, who is redubbed **Number 41**. **Tetsuo** is able to shrug off the most serious injuries. He goes on a killing spree, even attacking **Kaneda**. Followed by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, **Tetsuo** seeks out **Akira**, whose powers he fears may rival his own. In hibernation, Akira's power responds to Tetsuo's psychic energy. When **Tetsuo** reaches Akira's resting place, the

**Kaneda** **The Colonel** **Lady Miyako** **Masaru**

cryogenic chamber cracks from within. **Akira** emerges, dazed and docile following his long sleep.

The **Colonel** summons the powerful SOL military satellite and orders that its laser cannon be fired at **Tetsuo** and **Akira**. The two are separated by the blasts. **Akira** is saved by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, but the laser strikes Tetsuo's left arm. Afterward, **Neo-Tokyo** is placed in a state of military emergency, with "caretaker robots" patrolling the street and keeping order.

**Akira** and the resistance fighters are cornered by the Colonel's troops, but all seems well when **Takashi** fondly greets **Akira**. Then **Nezu**, a former resistance leader who has betrayed his own side, arrives. He tries to kill **Akira**, but kills **Takashi** instead.

The trauma of Takashi's death galvanizes **Akira**. He fully awakens and unleashes a light blast powerful enough to devastate the entire city. **Masaru** and **Kiyoko** sweep most of the people in the area upward. **Kaneda** is last seen vanishing toward the sky. Afterwards, **Lady Miyako** opens her temple and offers shelter and comfort to those in need, gathering large groups of followers in the East.

**Neo-Tokyo** is completely cut off from the outside world. In the western part of the city the **Great Tokyo Empire** is formed—a monarchy with **Akira** as the figurehead and **Tetsuo** as his prime minister. Together the pair use their powers, healing the sick, wielding control of the faithful, and organizing their subjects into fighting units that destroy caretaker robots and conquer military and medical relief parties sent from the outside

Tetsuo | Kai | Tetsuo's Aide | Lt. Yamada

world. The **Empire** is eventually infiltrated by teams of spies from the outside.

**Masaru** and **Kiyoko** are sick with withdrawal from the drug which augments and channels mental powers, and when **Kiyoko**, whose powers are precognitive, tell **Kay** to find **Number 19**, **Lady Miyako** asks that **Kay** bring other psychics to her when they are well.

Tetsuo's men kill most of the spies from the outside, but their leader, **Lt. Yamada**, escapes when **Ryu** leads him into the safety of an underground shelter. **Yamada** refuses to tell **Ryu** who has sent him. He does, however, reveal that Russia has conquered part of Japan, and that the Americans' fear of **Akira** makes them reluctant to get involved.

**Tetsuo** forces an orgy of sex and drugs on several young girls, only one of whom—**Kaori**—survives. Afterwards, **Tetsuo** looks into Akira's mind. He emerges a terrified wreck. When he recovers, he decides that **Lady Miyako** may be able to explain matters to him. Taking a dose of power-enhancing medication, **Tetsuo** teleports to the temple of the religious leader. **Lady Miyako** warns Tetsuo that he alone can control Akira's near-inconceivable powers, but that he must first overcome his dependency on drugs. Disgusted and perplexed, **Tetsuo** returns to his stronghold. There he neglects his duties of state, concentrating instead on trying to kick the habit.

**Kay** and **Chiyoko** try to move **Masaru** and **Kiyoko** to Lady Miyako's temple, but are attacked by Tetsuo's followers, who escape with **Kiyoko**. **Chiyoko** rescues the girl, but is badly wounded. The two are brought to safety by the **Colonel**, who has been living in isolation. **Chiyoko**, delirious, tells the **Colonel** to take **Kiyoko** to the temple, where he'll also find **Masaru**. Meanwhile, **Kay** safely conveys **Masaru** to the temple.

**Ryu** and **Lt. Yamada** watch the **Empire** from hiding. When Tetsuo's dapper lieutenant—disgusted by Tetsuo's lack of interest in the way **Lady Miyako** has thwarted their schemes—leads most of the Empire's men out as an army, **Ryu** and **Yamada** move in. They are startled by an encounter with **Tetsuo**, his power surging erratically from withdrawal. **Ryu** is even more startled when **Tetsuo** blurts out what his telepathy has shown him—that **Yamada** has come to assassinate **Akira**.

Tetsuo's lieutenant leads his

Kiyoko Kaori Ryu Kay

army to Lady Miyako's temple, and they slaughter all in their path—monks, penitants and helpless refugees alike. They are, however, thwarted by the power of Lady Miyako's psychically gifted monks and defeated when **Kay** captures their leader. **Lady Miyako** refuses to permit the execution of her enemies. Tetsuo's men depart alive, bitterly swearing revenge. They return an hour later hungry for blood and victory.

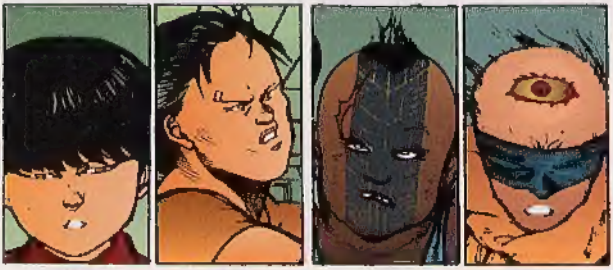
**Kay**, along with **Kai**—one of the suriving members of Kaneda's old gang—urges **Lady Miyako** to flee before it's too late. The religious leader refuses, so the three board Lady Miyako's private elevator with **Masaru** and depart for the temple's tower to make a last stand.

The **Colonel** arrives outside the temple with **Kiyoko**. He is wounded by some of the Empire's men, but is rescued by a soldier formerly under his command. The **Colonel** reveals his possession of a remote control laser gun that enables him to fire blasts from the SOL military satellite.

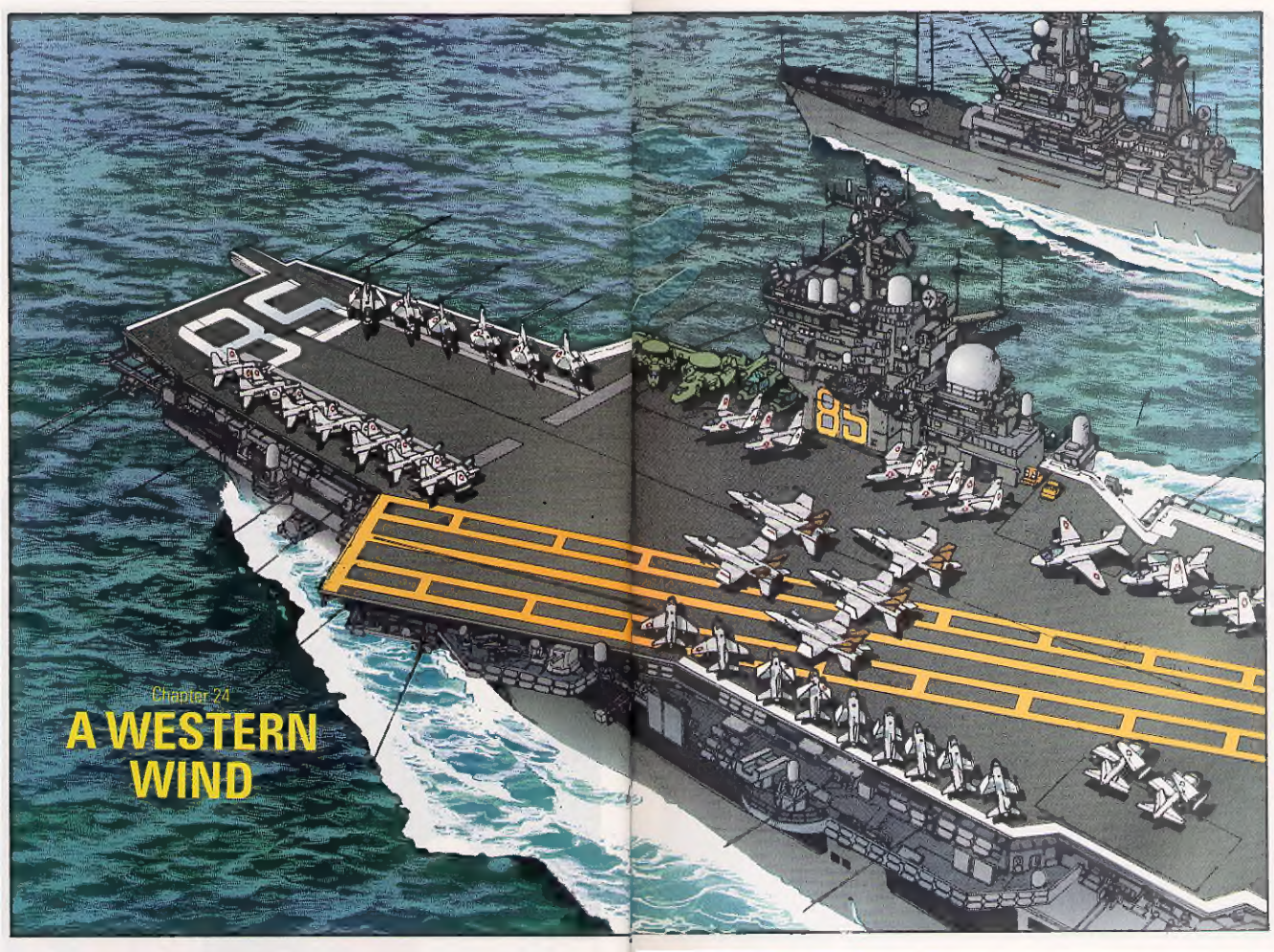
Lady Miyako's elevator reaches the tower. The doors open to reveal **Tetsuo**, sweating, delirious, and undergoing severe physical trauma from drug withdrawal.

Tetsuo's physical symptoms culminate in an explosive leap skyward that unleashes even further devastation on **Neo-Tokyo**. During the mayhem, **Kaneda** reappears, as if from nowhere.

**Tetsuo** hallucinates wildly, experiencing recollections of his parents and his early childhood. He is humbled by a vision of the double helix spiral that **Akira** constantly creates when he plays. Only **Kaori** is there to see **Tetuso** return to the seat of the **Great Tokyo Empire** and bow down to his young lord.

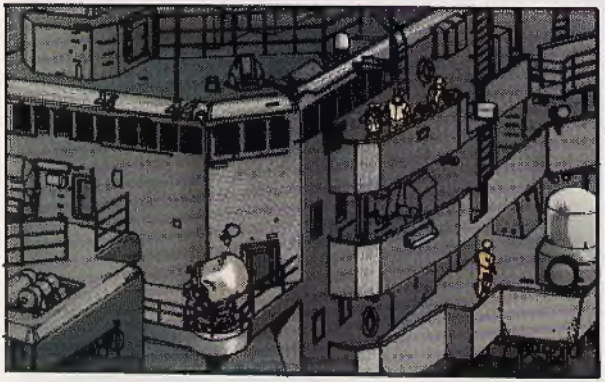


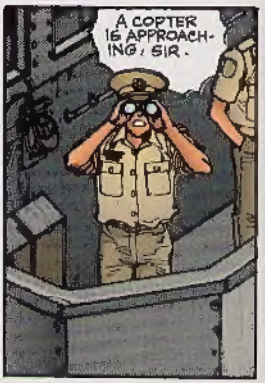
**Akira** **Chiyoko** **Joker** **Seer**

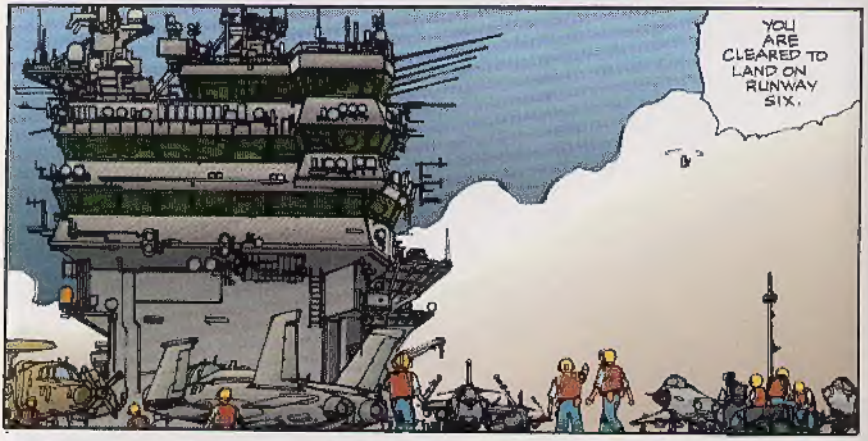


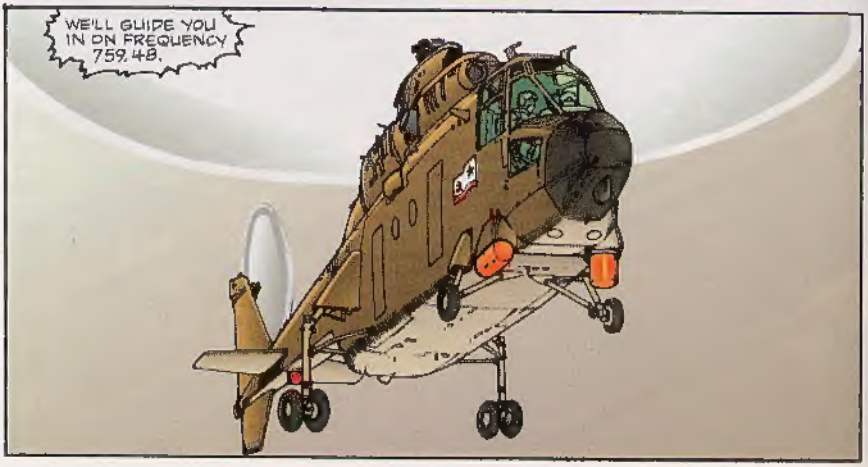

Chapter 24

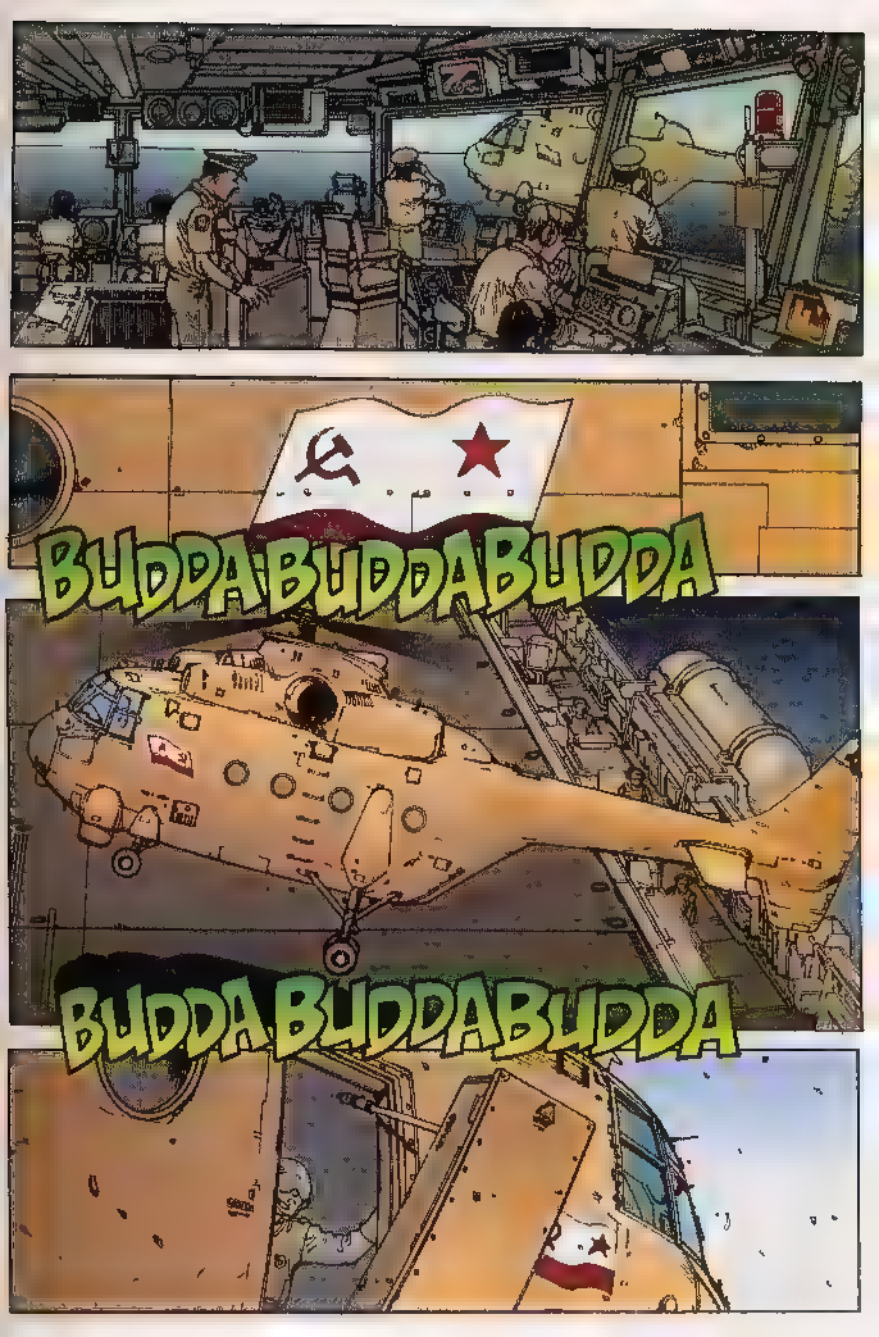
# A WESTERN WIND

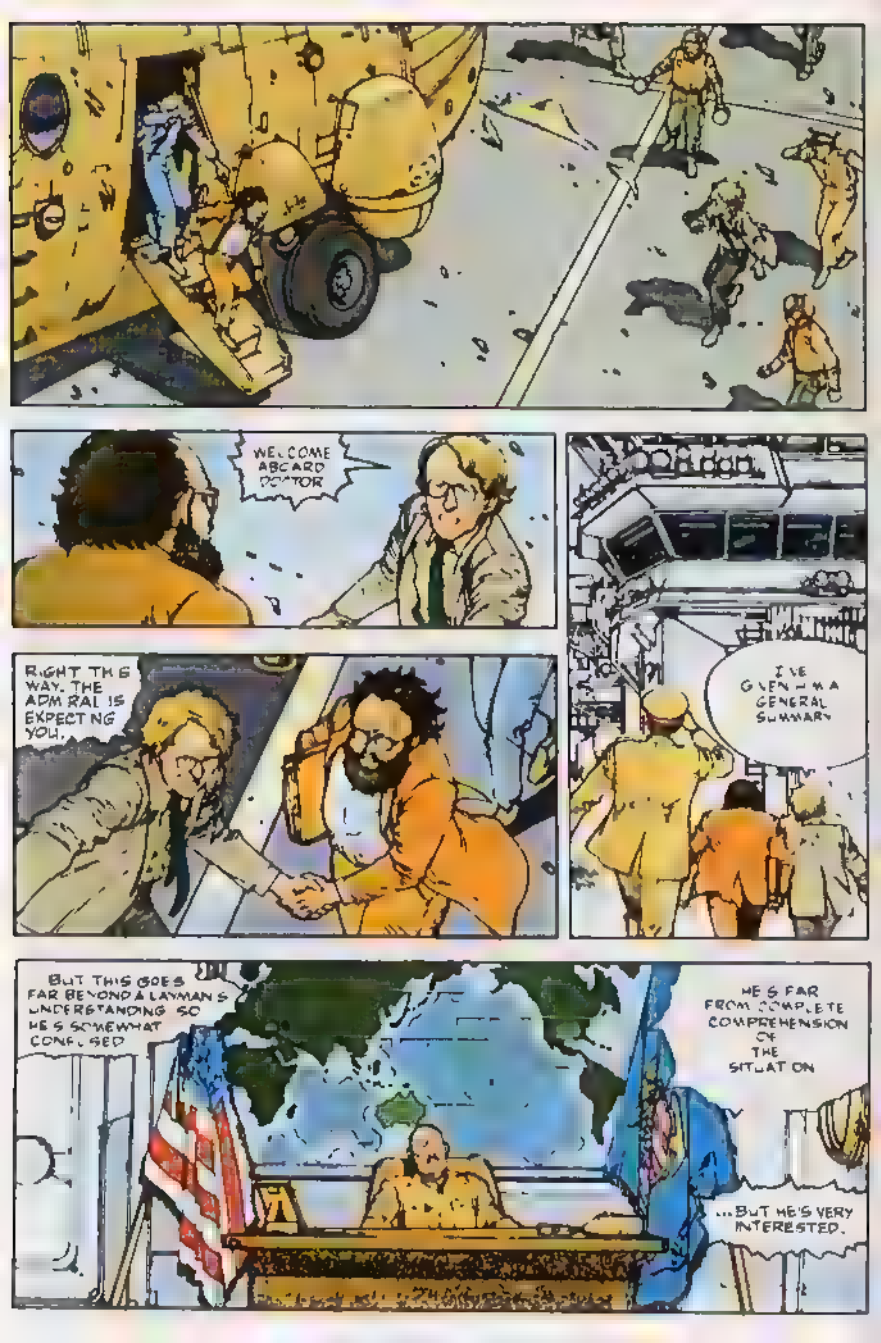


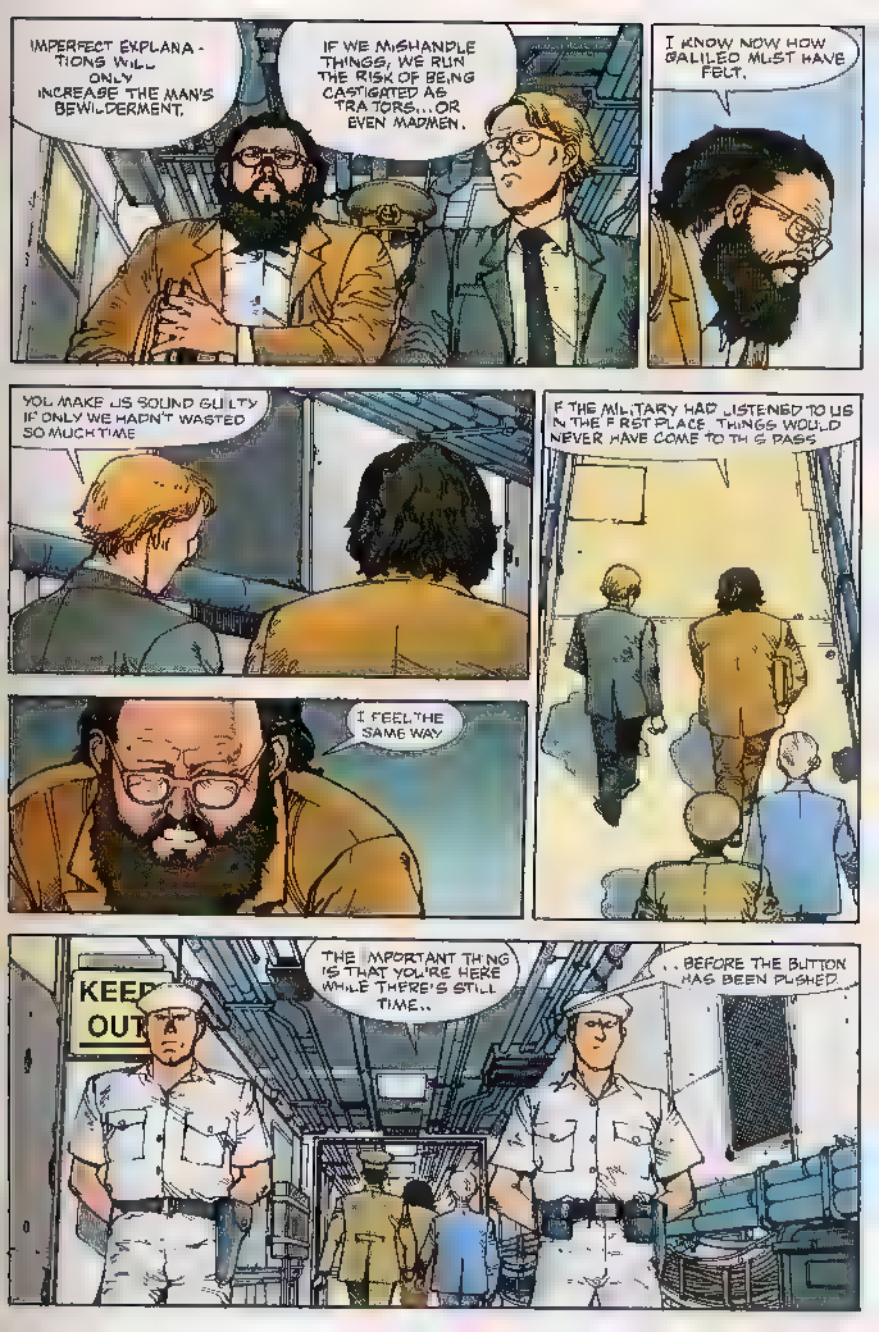

A COPTER 16 APPROACH-ING, SIR.


YOU ARE CLEARED TO LAND ON RUNWAY SIX.


WE'LL GUIDE YOU IN ON FREQUENCY 759.48.


BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

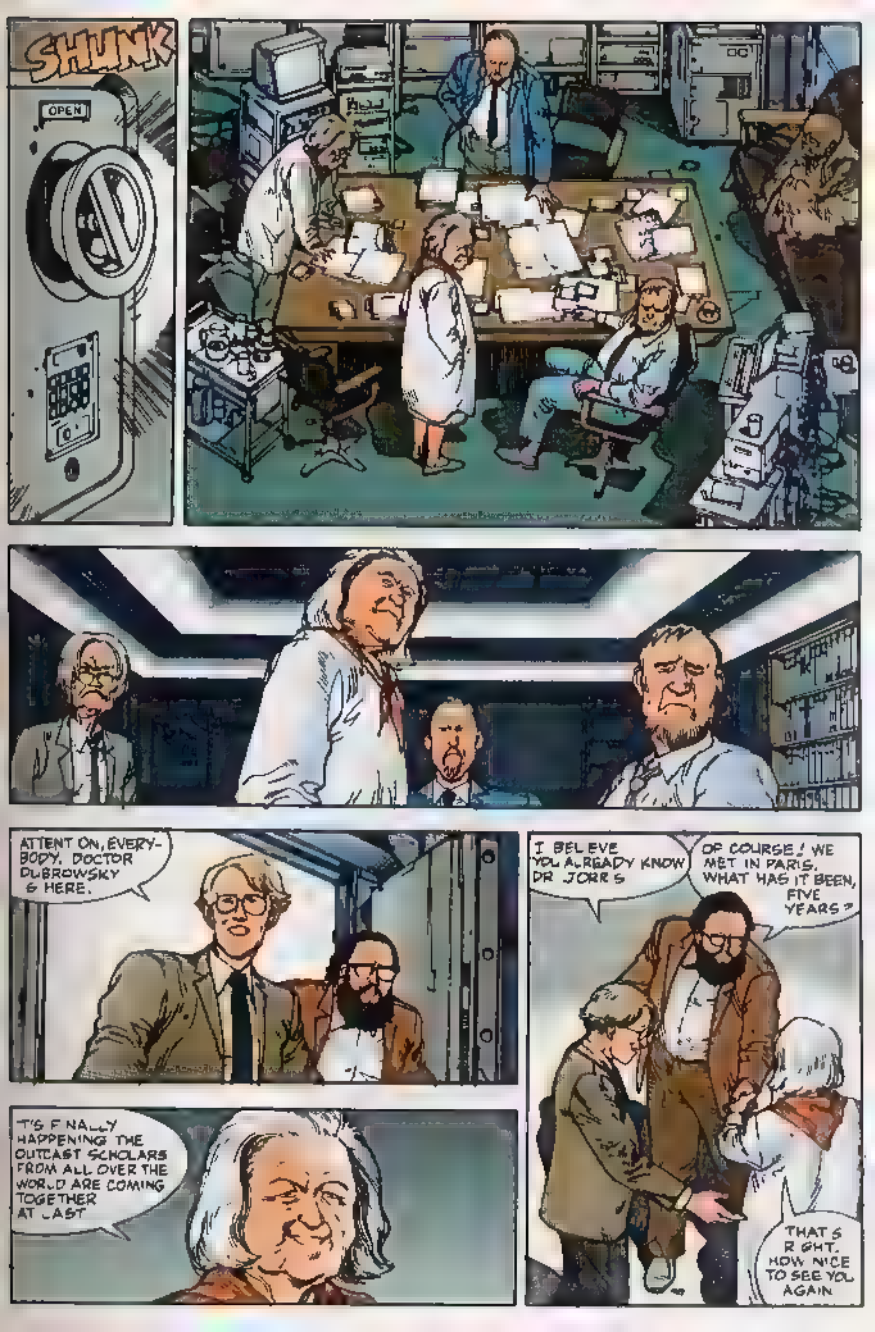

WELCOME ABOARD DOCTOR
RIGHT THIS WAY. THE ADMIRAL IS EXPECTING YOU.
I'VE GIVEN HIM A GENERAL SUMMARY
BUT THIS GOES FAR BEYOND A LAYMAN'S UNDERSTANDING SO HE'S SOMEWHAT CONFUSED
HE'S FAR FROM COMPLETE COMPREHENSION OF THE SITUATION
...BUT HE'S VERY INTERESTED.


IMPERFECT EXPLANATIONS WILL ONLY INCREASE THE MAN'S BEWILDERMENT.
IF WE MISHANDLE THINGS, WE RUN THE RISK OF BEING CASTIGATED AS TRAITORS...OR EVEN MADMEN.
I KNOW NOW HOW GALILEO MUST HAVE FELT.
YOU MAKE US SOUND GUILTY IF ONLY WE HADN'T WASTED SO MUCH TIME
IF THE MILITARY HAD LISTENED TO US IN THE FIRST PLACE, THINGS WOULD NEVER HAVE COME TO THIS PASS
I FEEL THE SAME WAY
KEEP OUT
THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU'RE HERE WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME..
..BEFORE THE BUTTON HAS BEEN PUSHED

THE PRESIDENT HAS INFORMED ME OF YOUR DECISION TO W THDRAW YOUR FORCES...
...TO THE BOUNDARES DICTATED BY THE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE YEAR 2000, I APPLAUD YOUR W.SDOM AND YOUR COURAGE.
I APPRECIATE THAT. I'M NOT A SOLDIER, BUT IT S OBV OUS THAT TH.S WAR HAS GROWN.
...OUT OF MISTRUST AND MISUNDERSTAND-ING ON BOTH SIDES. SOMEONE MUST BE WILLING TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP
PLEASE THANK YOUR PRESIDENT FOR AGREE NG TO THIS JOINT SOVIET-AMERICAN APPROACH TO THE STUDY OF OUR PROBLEM.
I REALIZE THE DOCTOR IS PROBABLY TIRED FROM H S LONG JOURNEY, BUT I'D L KE TO SHOW HIM TO THE LABORA TORY AND NTRODUCE HIM TO OUR STAFF.
I D LIKE THAT.
I HOPE YOU'LL FIND EVERYTHING SH.PSHAPE LET ME KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTH NG ELSE YOU THINK YOU'LL NEED

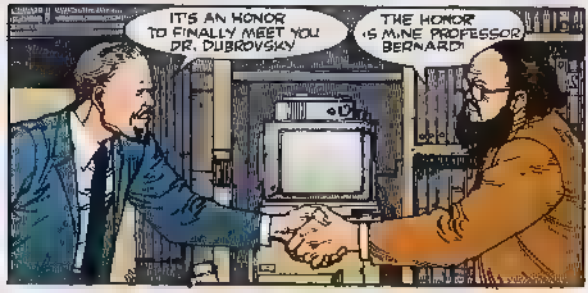
BEEP
AN ELEVATOR...?
SPACE IS LIMITED, BUT OUR FACILITIES ARE FIRST-RATE.
BY THE WAY, CERTAIN PARTS OF THE SHIP ARE POSTED AS BEING OFF-LIMITS. I'M AFRAID THAT APPLIES TO YOU.
OF COURSE.
GOOD.

HERE WE ARE.
SHDOM
:GASP!:
DOCTOR!
THIS WAY.
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT

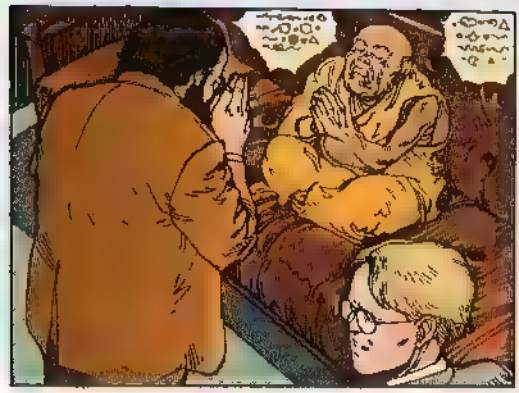

SHUNK
OPEN
ATTENTION, EVERYBODY. DOCTOR DUBROWSKY IS HERE.
I BELEVE YOU ALREADY KNOW DR JORRS
OF COURSE! WE MET IN PARIS. WHAT HAS IT BEEN, FIVE YEARS?
T'S F NALLY HAPPENING THE OUTCAST SCHOLARS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE COMING TOGETHER AT LAST
THAT S R GHT. HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN

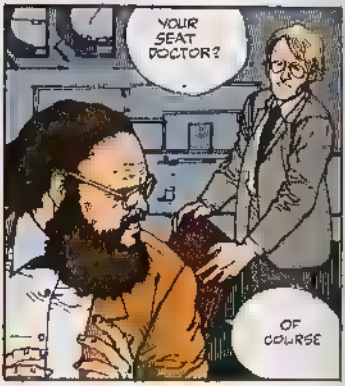
HOW DO YOU DO?
THIS IS DR. STANLSY SIMMONS.
IT'S A PLEASURE.

I'M GEORGE HOCK. NICE TO KNOW YOU.
I'VE HEARD OF YOU

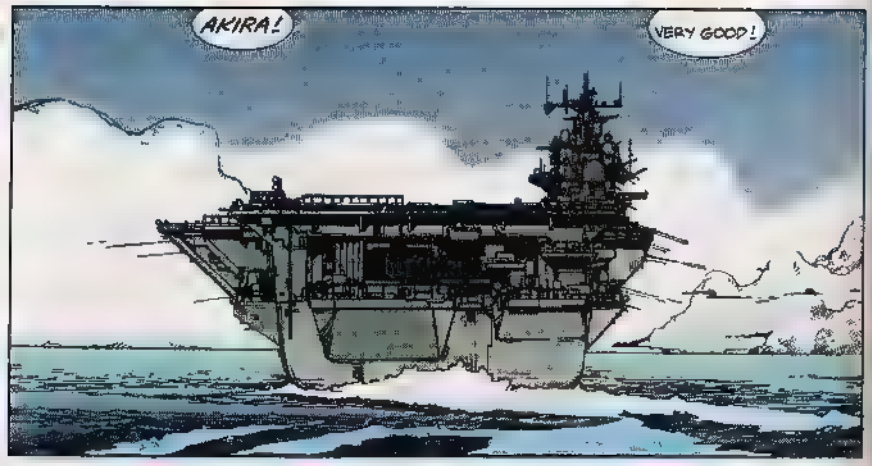

IT'S AN HONOR TO FINALLY MEET YOU DR. DUBROVSKY
THE HONOR IS MINE PROFESSOR BERNARD!

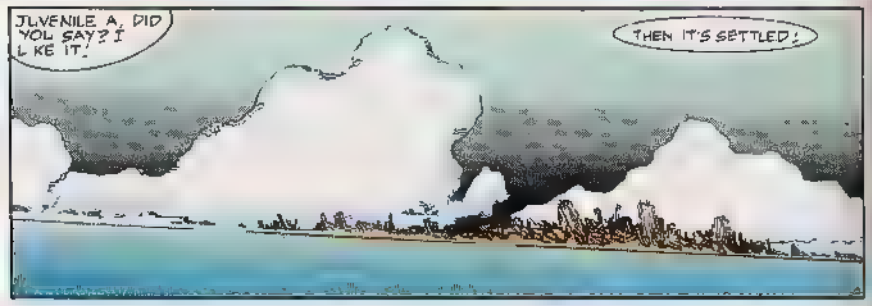
KARMA TANGI HAS DONE US THE HONOR OF COMING ALL THE WAY FROM TIBET TO ADVISE US
HE'S A FAMOUS LAMA

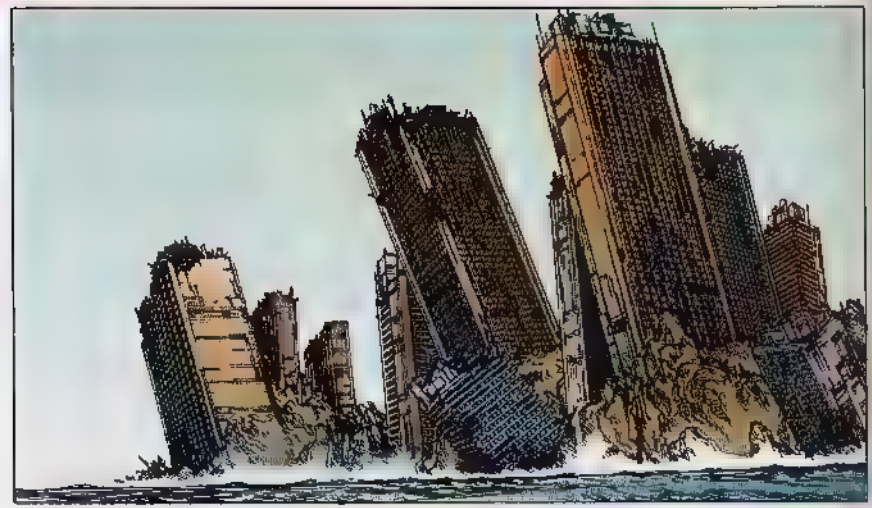



YOUR SEAT DOCTOR?
OF COURSE

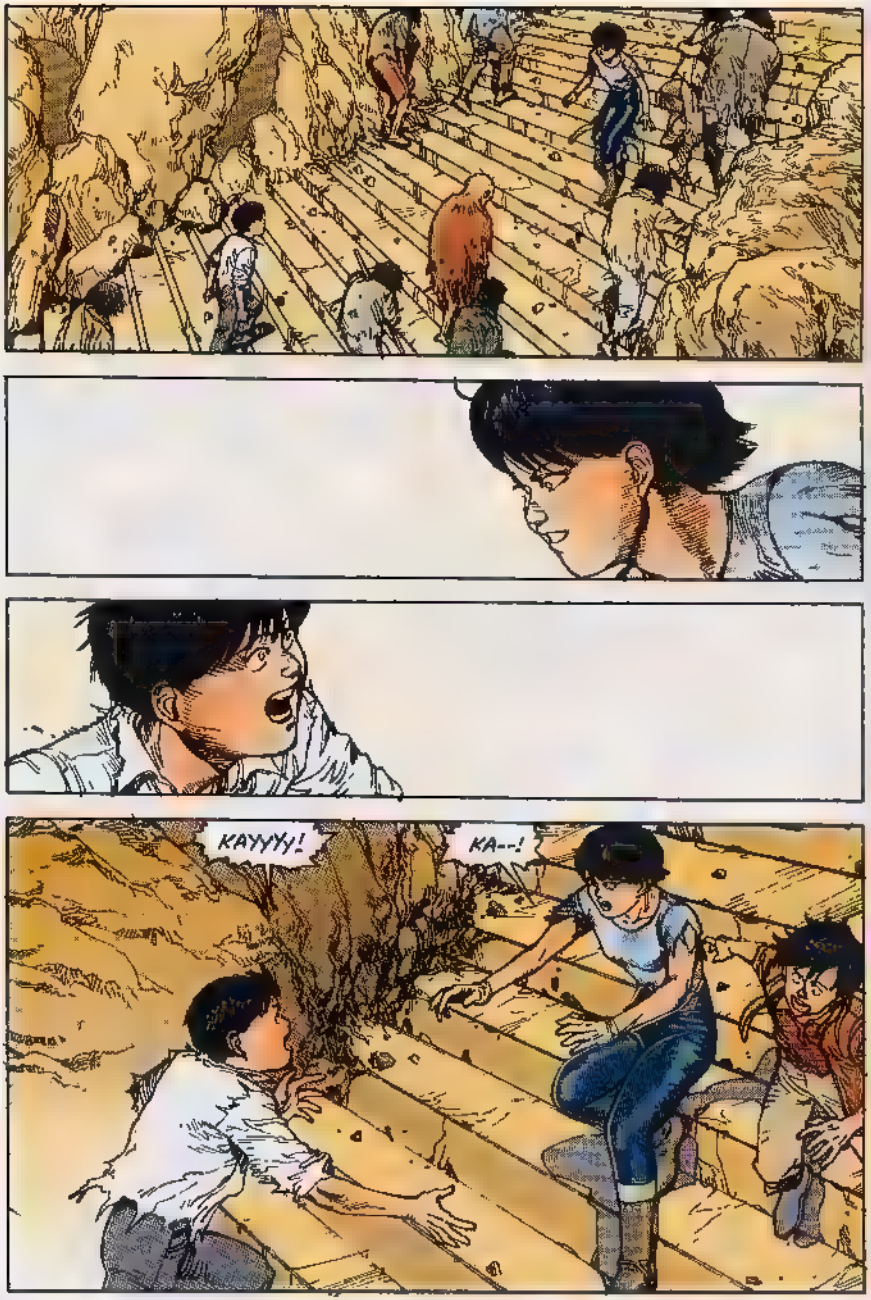
SHALL WE BEGIN?
BEFORE WE EXAM NE THE NEW MATERIALS DR DUBROVSKY HAS BROUGHT US, I SUGGEST WE MAKE SURE OUR OWN ANALYSIS IS COMPLETELY UP TO DATE.
A GOOD IDEA. BUT FIRST, DON'T YOU TH NK THIS PROJECT SHOULD HAVE A NAME ?
I CONCUR. PERHAPS DR. DUBROVSKY WOULD CARE TO...?
AHEM:
WHAT ABOUT SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF YOUNG A...
... OR JUVEN LE A... AND THE LETTER A, OF COURSE WOULD STAND FOR. .


AKIRA!
VERY GOOD!


JUVENILE A, DID YOU SAY? I LIKE IT.
THEN IT'S SETTLED!

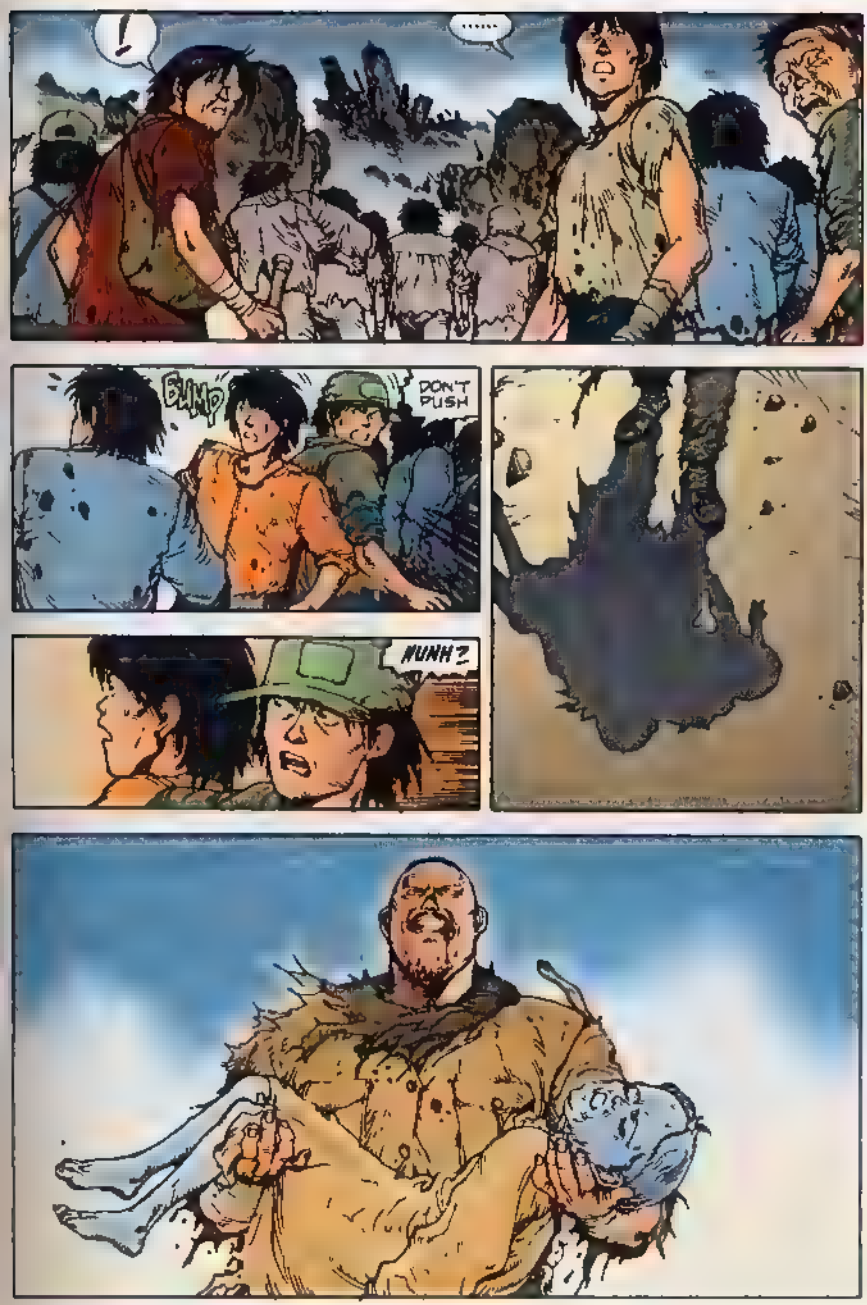


KANEDA

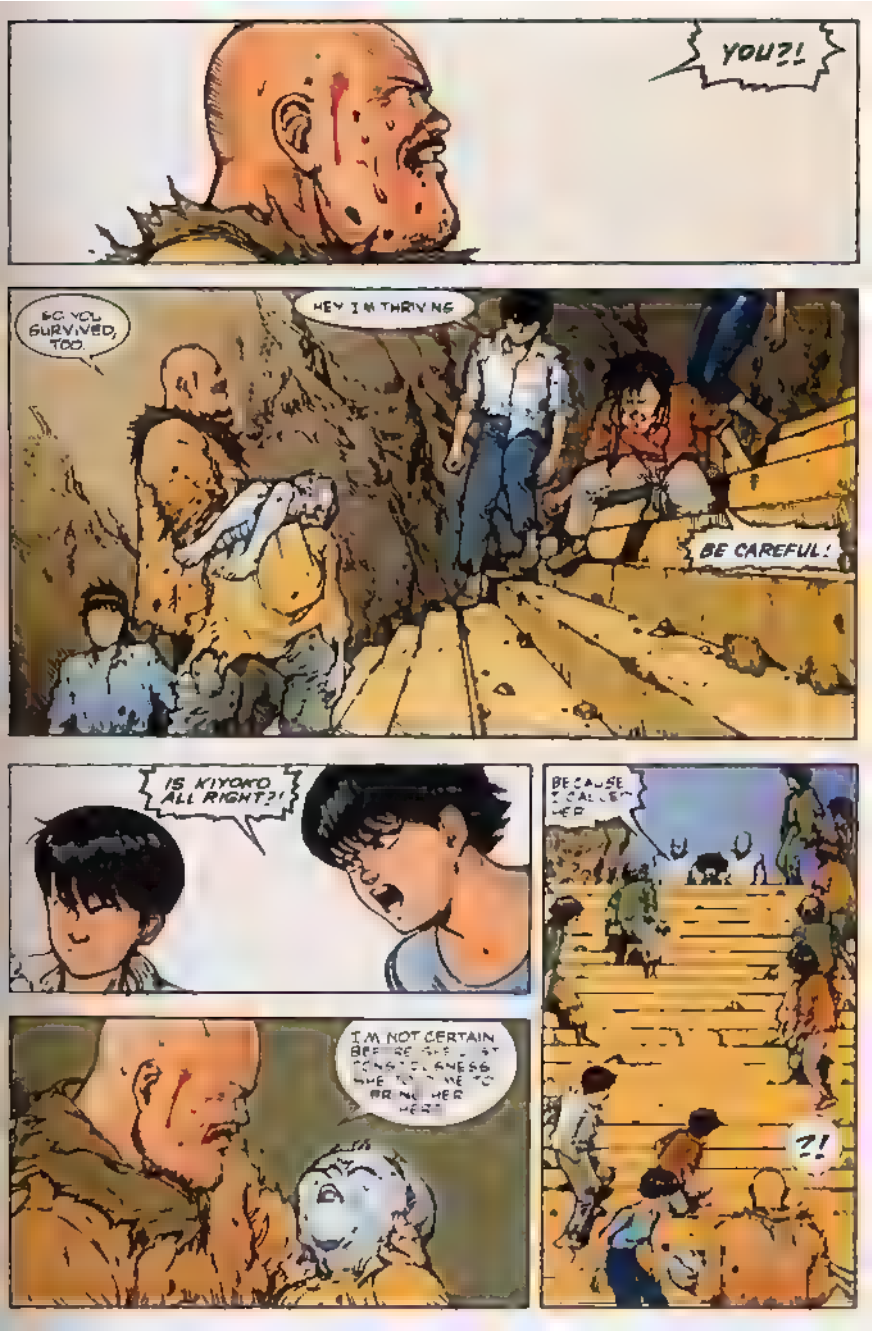

KAYYYy!
KA--!

KANEDAAA!
HUNH?
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE YOU--!
IT'S REALLY YOU! YOU'RE ALIVE!
YOU ASS-HOLE!
I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU! ;SOB-SOB!;

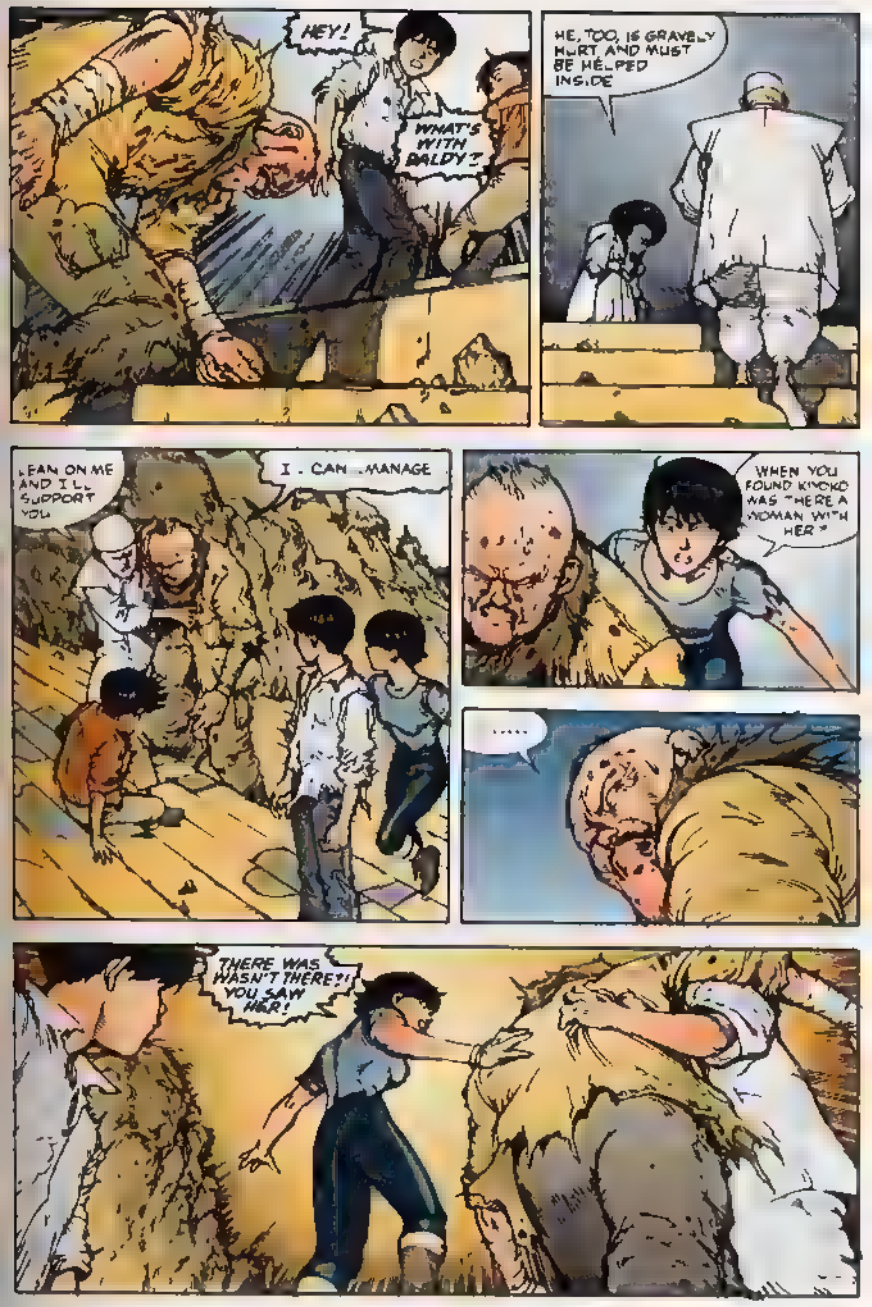
WHAT IN... ?
HEY!
BHOON
SRB-HK
51
...
MI .
. MIYAKO... MUST GET TO HER .


!
.....
BLIND
DON'T PUSH
NUNH?

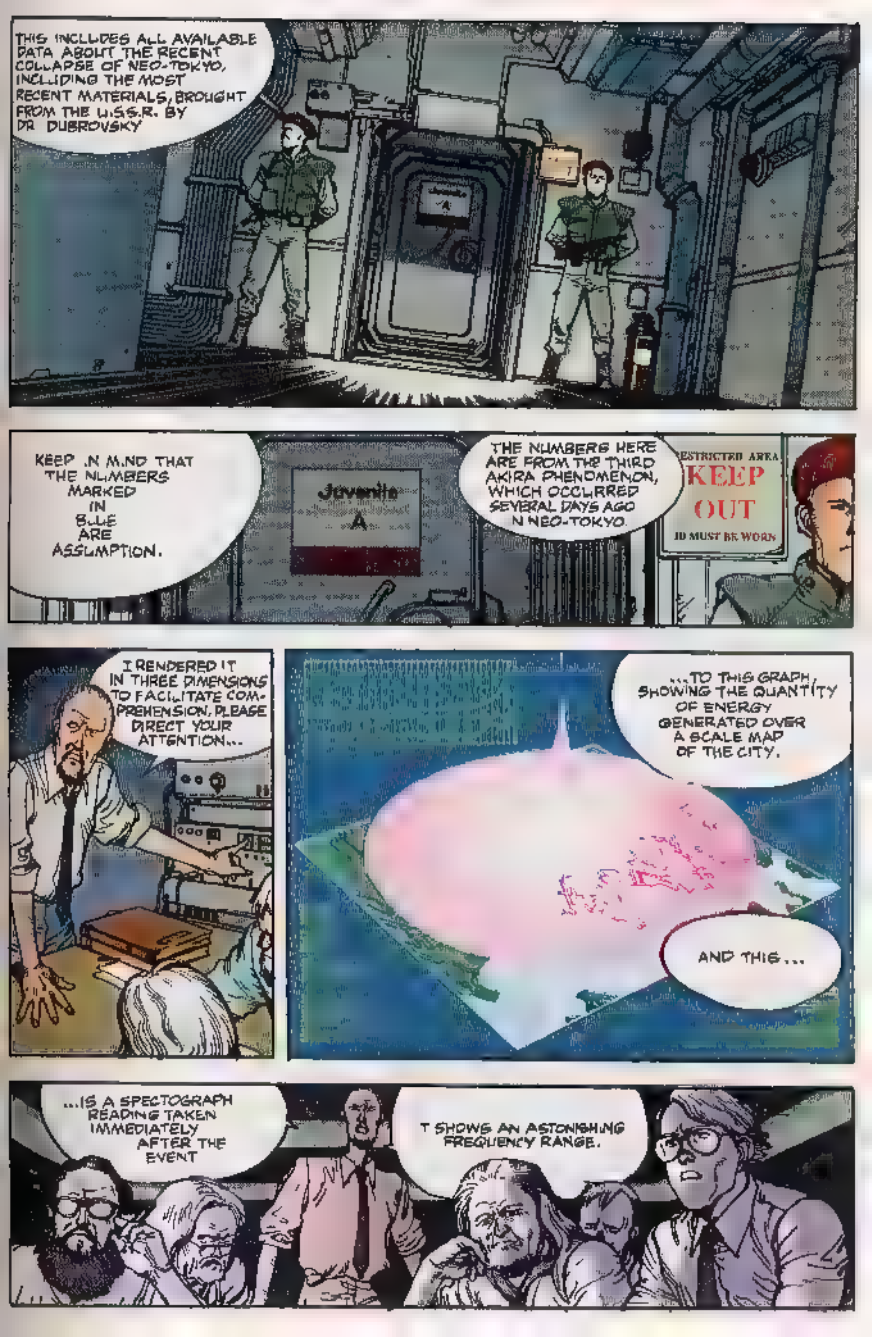
WHOA!
WOW.
QUIT SHOVING!
THAT'S A CARETAKER ROBOT!
WHAT'S IT WANT HERE?
I DON'T THINK IT'S ATTACKING US.
HMPF
IT'S THE SKINHEAD!
HE'S STILL ALIVE!
KIYOKO!


YOU?!
SO YOU SURVIVED, TOO.
HEY I M THRIV NG
BE CAREFUL!
IS KIYOKO ALL RIGHT?!
I'M NOT CERTAIN
BECAUSE I CALLED HER
?!

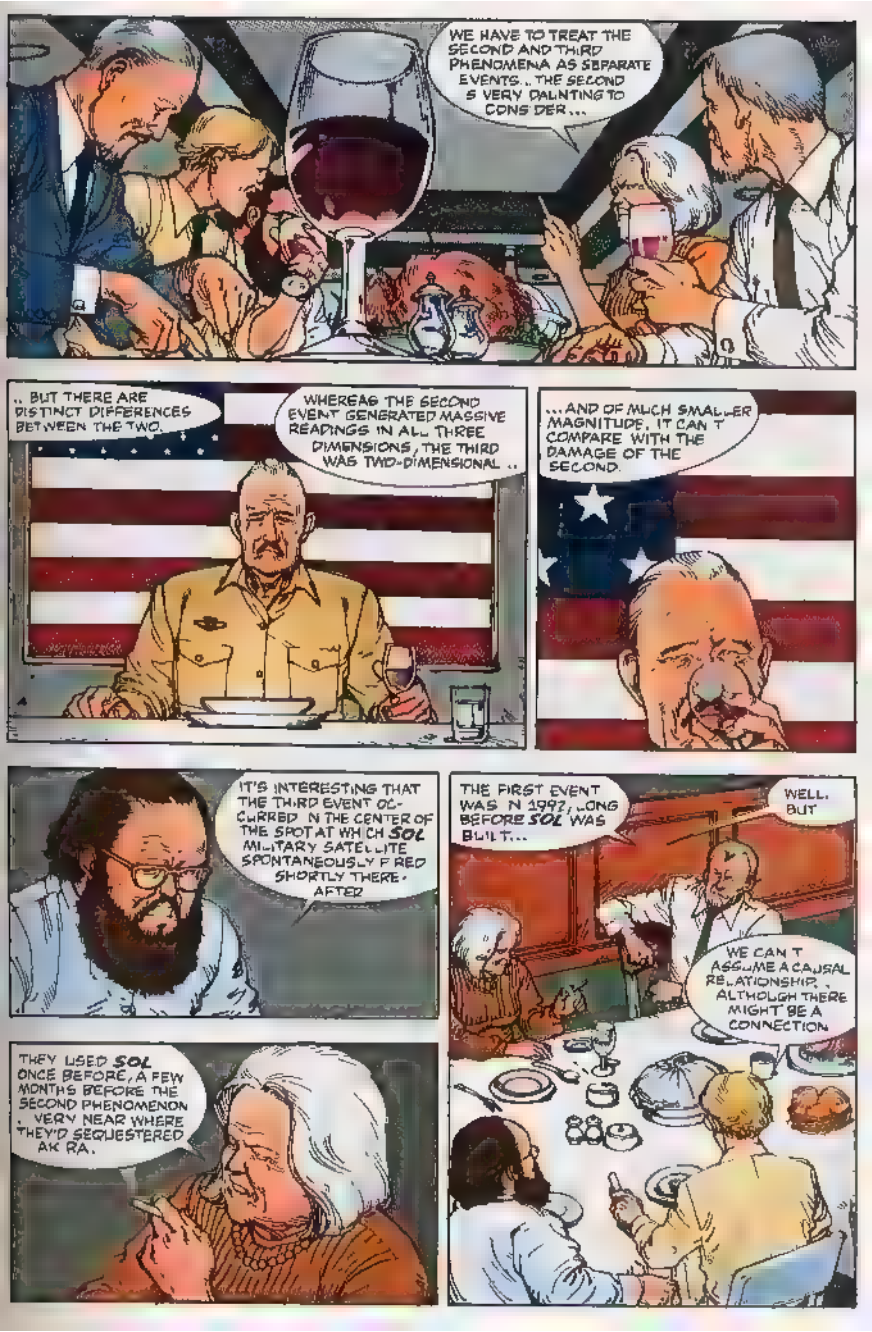
IT'S LADY MIYAKO! SHE'S HERE!
LADY MIYAKO!
WHAT'S UP?
IT'S LIKE A VISION!
SHE LOOKS EXHAUSTED.. SOMEONE HELP HER THE REST OF THE WAY.
AT ONCE!
SO! MIYAKO. .
... }UHNGHE .
. S NUMBER 19

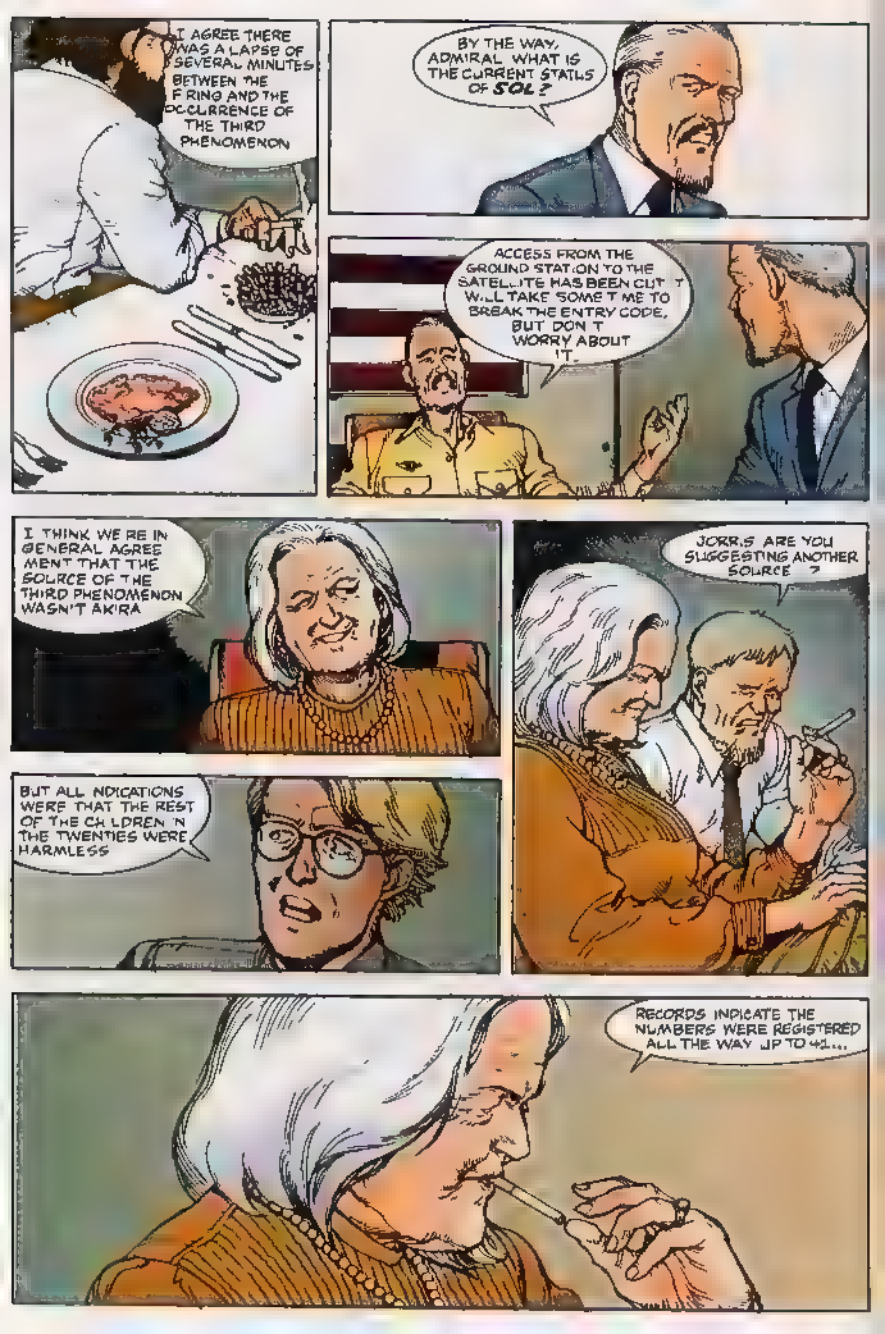

HEY!
WHAT'S WITH BALDY?
HE, TOO, IS GRAVELY HURT AND MUST BE HELPED INSIDE
LEAN ON ME AND I'LL SUPPORT YOU
I . CAN . MANAGE
WHEN YOU FOUND KINCKO WAS "HERE A WOMAN WITH HER"
.....
THERE WAS WASN'T THERE?! YOU SAW HER!

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOPE.

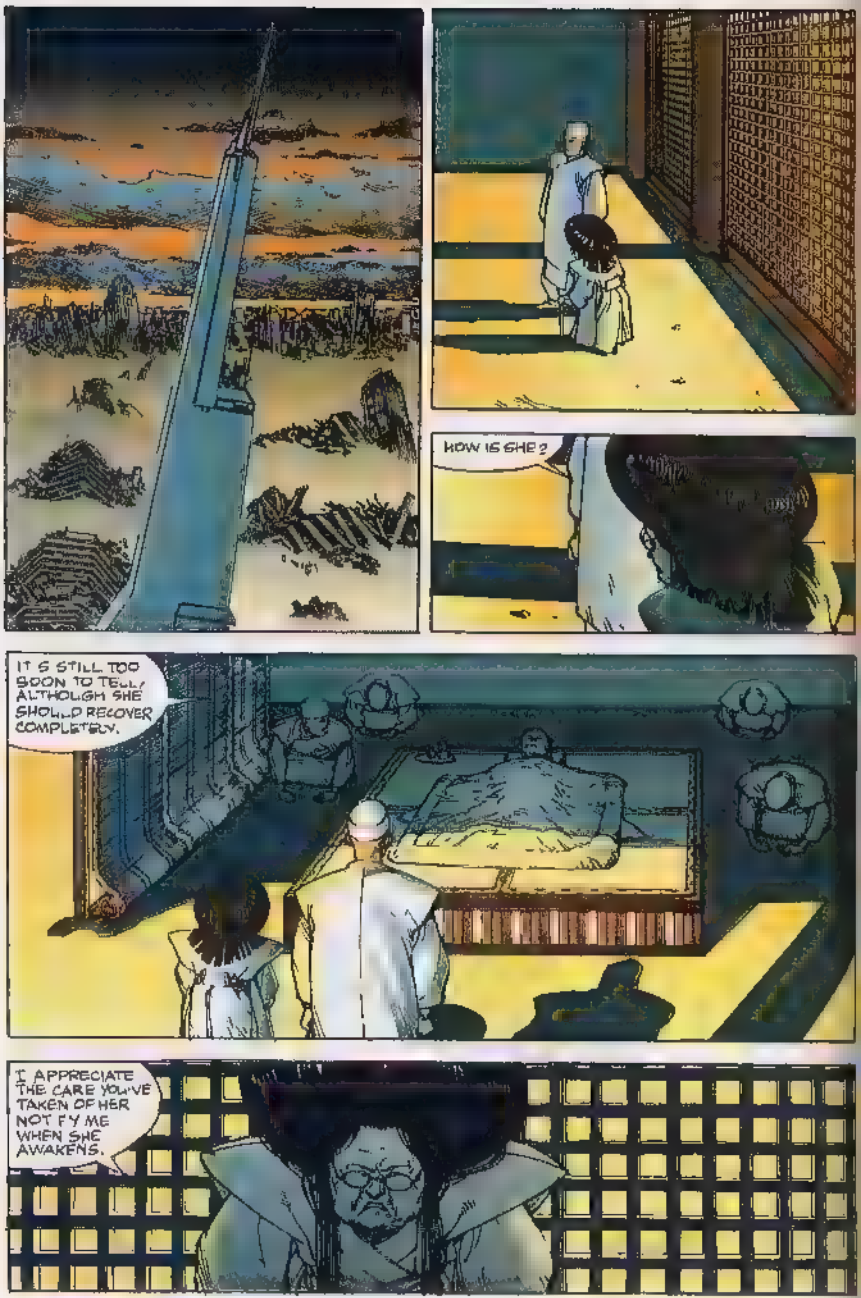

THIS INCLUDES ALL AVAILABLE DATA ABOUT THE RECENT COLLAPSE OF NEO-TOKYO, INCLUDING THE MOST RECENT MATERIALS, BROUGHT FROM THE U.S.S.R. BY DR DUBROVSKY
KEEP IN MIND THAT THE NUMBERS MARKED IN BLUE ARE ASSUMPTION.
Juvenile A
THE NUMBERS HERE ARE FROM THE THIRD AKIRA PHENOMENON, WHICH OCCURRED SEVERAL DAYS AGO IN NEO-TOKYO.
RESTRICTED AREA
KEEP OUT
ID MUST BE WORN
I RENDERED IT IN THREE DIMENSIONS TO FACILITATE COMPREHENSION. PLEASE DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION...
...TO THIS GRAPH SHOWING THE QUANTITY OF ENERGY GENERATED OVER A SCALE MAP OF THE CITY.
AND THIS...
...IS A SPECTOGRAPH READING TAKEN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EVENT
IT SHOWS AN ASTONISHING FREQUENCY RANGE.

THERE WERE GAMMA RAYS AT THE HEART OF THE DISTURBANCE, AS WELL AS EVIDENCE OF A RED SHIFT...
...WHICH IS CORROBORATED BY READINGS FROM OTHER SURVEY INSTALLATIONS VERIFIED AGAINSTA TIME-PROCESS DIAGRAM
WE ALSO HAVE CONFIRMATION OF RADIOACTIVE DISINTEGRATION, NUCLEAR FUSION, GRAVITY WAVE DETECTION, PROTON COLLAPSE... IN SHORT...
...ALL EVIDENCE INDICATES THE OCCURRENCE.
...OF A MINIATURE BIG BANG.
THAT IS UNQUESTIONABLY WHAT OCCURRED. WE'VE CONFIRMED THE PRESENCE OF UNKNOWN SUBSTANCES AND PHENOMENA AT THE SITE.
IT WILL TAKE US SOME TIME JUST TO COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA
SO... WE'RE WITNESSES TO THE BIRTH OF A NEW UNIVERSE.


WE HAVE TO TREAT THE SECOND AND THIRD PHENOMENA AS SEPARATE EVENTS.. THE SECOND S VERY DALNTING TO CONS DER...
.. BUT THERE ARE DISTINCT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO.
WHEREAS THE SECOND EVENT GENERATED MASSIVE READINGS IN ALL THREE DIMENSIONS, THE THIRD WAS TWO-DIMENSIONAL ..
...AND OF MUCH SMALLER MAGNITUDE, IT CAN T COMPARE WITH THE DAMAGE OF THE SECOND.
IT'S INTERESTING THAT THE THIRD EVENT OC- CURRED N THE CENTER OF THE SPOT AT WH CH SOL MILITARY SATELLITE SPONTANEOUSLY F RED SHORTLY THERE- AFTER
THEY USED SOL ONCE BEFORE, A FEW MONTHS BEFORE THE SECOND PHENOMENON . VERY NEAR WHERE THEY'D SEQUESTERED AK RA.
THE FIRST EVENT WAS N 1997, LONG BEFORE SOL WAS BUILT...
WELL, BUT
WE CAN T ASSUME A CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP , ALTHOUGH THERE MIGHT BE A CONNECTION.


I AGREE THERE WAS A LAPSE OF SEVERAL MINUTES BETWEEN THE F RING AND THE OCCURRENCE OF THE THIRD PHENOMENON
BY THE WAY, ADMIRAL WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF SOL?
ACCESS FROM THE GROUND STATION TO THE SATELLITE HAS BEEN CUT WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO BREAK THE ENTRY CODE, BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I THINK WE'RE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THE SOURCE OF THE THIRD PHENOMENON WASN'T AKIRA
BUT ALL INDICATIONS WERE THAT THE REST OF THE CHILDREN IN THE TWENTIES WERE HARMLESS
JORRIS ARE YOU SUGGESTING ANOTHER SOURCE?
RECORDS INDICATE THE NUMBERS WERE REGISTERED ALL THE WAY UP TO 42...

NUMBERS 32, 33, 36, 37 38 AND 40 ALL DIED FROM BRAIN INJURIES INCURRED DURING THEIR TREATMENTS. NUMBERS 34, 35 AND 39...
... WERE STILL IN THE SECRET LAB AT THE TIME OF THE SECOND PHENOMENON WITH THE COLLAPSE OF NEO-TOKYO, THEY WERE LISTED AS MISSING.
NUMBER 41 IS REPORTED TO HAVE RUN AWAY ON APRIL 16, 2030.
... THE SAME DAY SOL LASER CANNON WAS FIRED AT THE COMPLEX WHERE AKIRA WAS BEING HELD.


HOW IS SHE?
IT'S STILL TOO SOON TO TELL, ALTHOUGH SHE SHOULD RECOVER COMPLETELY.
I APPRECIATE THE CARE YOU'VE TAKEN OF HER NOT FY ME WHEN SHE AWAKENS.

WE MUST WAIT UNTIL NUMBER 25 HAS RECOVERED
AFTER THAT EVERYTHING RESTS WITH NUMBER 41
IT COMES DOWN TO A QUESTION OF JUDGMENT AND PERCEPTION...
SKIFF
MY LADY, IS ANYTHING WRONG?
...I'M TREMBLING
SIGH
I'M AFRAID..

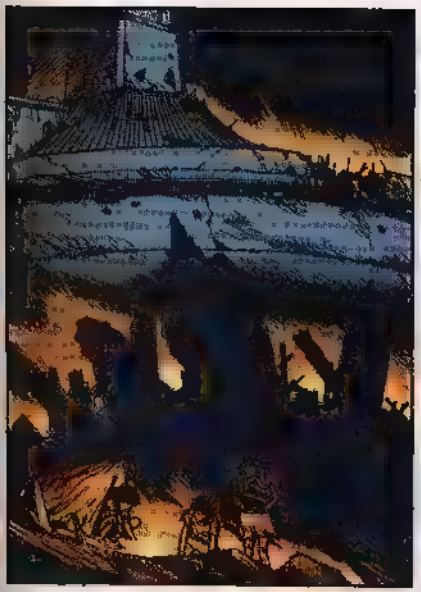
PLEASE ...REST HERE.
IT WILL BE SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE YOUR WOUND IS CLOSED. UNTIL THEN, YOU MUSTN'T TAX YOUR SELF.
.....
DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID? IT MEANS I'M STUCK HERE FOR SEVERAL DAYS.
I WOULDN'T KNOW
WHAT MATTERS IS CHIYOKO'S ALIVE AND YOU REFUSE TO TELL ME WHERE YOU'VE SEEN HER
THAT'S RIGHT.
THEN YOU'RE IN FOR A LO-OO-ONG FIGHT

IF CHIYOKO IS STILL ALIVE..
I KNOW SHE'LL TRY TO CONTACT ME, SOMEHOW
UNLESS SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HER... SAY, IF SHE WERE HURT.
WELL...
IS IT CONNECTED TO THE FIRING OF THAT SATELLITE?
!

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO FIRED THE SPACE LASER.
!
IT'S OKAY, THERE'S NO ONE AROUND WHO CAN HEAR US.
AND I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED, EITHER.
I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT CHIYOKO.
.....

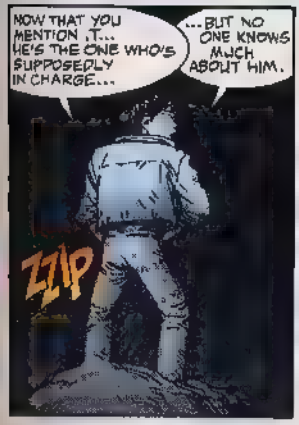
YOU'RE CALLED KAY, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT COLONEL.
WHAT KEEPS YOU IN NEO-TOKYO?
IN MY CASE..
...IT'S DEDICATION TO DUTY I HAVE A JOB TO FINISH
LOYALTY TO FRIENDS.. ONE OF WHOM MIGHT BE DYING.
AND I NEED SOL TO DO IT.

SOL ..?
THE SPACE LASER
YOU PLAN TO USE IT TO--!
I ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SEED WHICH I PLANTED.
BEFORE HE GROWS INTO ANOTHER AKIRA
YOU MEAN TETSUO!
I LEAVE BEFORE DAWN IF YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME BE WAITING AT THE FRONT GATE



...THEN THEY SET UP THE GREAT TOKYO EMPIRE.
HE STRUTS AROUND LIKE SOME KIND OF KING

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KID -AKIRA?


NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT... HE'S THE ONE WHO'S SUPPOSEDLY IN CHARGE...
...BUT NO ONE KNOWS MUCH ABOUT HIM.
ZZIP

I THINK HE'S JUST A FIGUREHEAD.
IT'S KIND OF LIKE A REGENCY ...THEY CALL THE KID THEIR EMPEROR...

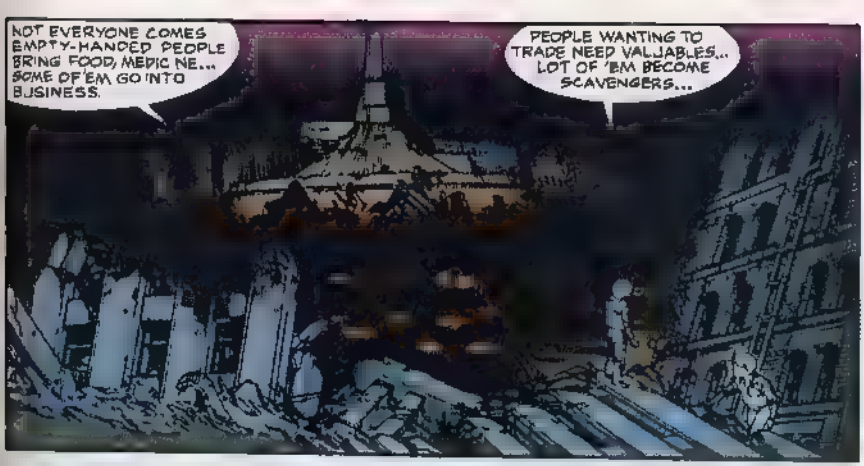
...BUT...
...TETSUO'S THE GUY WHO GIVES THE ORDERS

HUNH, TETSUO?
AND FROM THE SOUND OF THINGS, YOU'RE GETTING TO BE A REAL BIG SHOT.

NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK, WE CAN SETTLE THAT SCORE.
AH... BY THE WAY,
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY CLOTHES I COULD BORROW, WOULD YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT! I FORGOT!
I STILL HAVEN'T INTRODUCED YOU TO THE REST OF THE GANG
WHAT GANG?
YOU EXPECT ME TO MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION DRESSED LIKE THIS?
COME ON.. YOU CAN GET ANYTHING YOU WANT
THERE'S SOMEONE YOU'VE GOTTA MEET
OW
WHO IS HE?
YOU'LL SEE

KANEDA!
TAP
Shuff
.....
KANEDAAAA!

HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AWAY FROM THE TEMPLE FOLLOW ME
WHO IS THIS MIYAKO CHARACTER, ANYWAY?
SEMI-SAINT WHO DOES THE LADY BOUNTIFUL THING FOR THE SICK AND THE NEEDY.
FOUNDER OF HER OWN CHURCH ...LIVING GODDESS.
!
BOTTOM LINE, THIS PLACE IS JUST LIKE SOME KIND OF MODERN MECCA, PEOPLE GO THROUGH HELL TO COME HERE I JUST DON'T GET IT!


NOT EVERYONE COMES EMPTY-HANDED. PEOPLE BRING FOOD, MEDIC NE... SOME OF 'EM GO INTO BUSINESS.
PEOPLE WANTING TO TRADE NEED VALUABLES... LOT OF 'EM BECOME SCAVENGERS...

THERE'S ENOUGH WORTH R PPING OFF, WE'VE EVEN GOT BANDS OF THIEVES ...A WHOLE BLACK MARKET COMMUNITY, BUILT AROUND THE SHR.NE.

OH, I GET T.
THAT'S WHERE I CAN BUY SOME CLOTHES

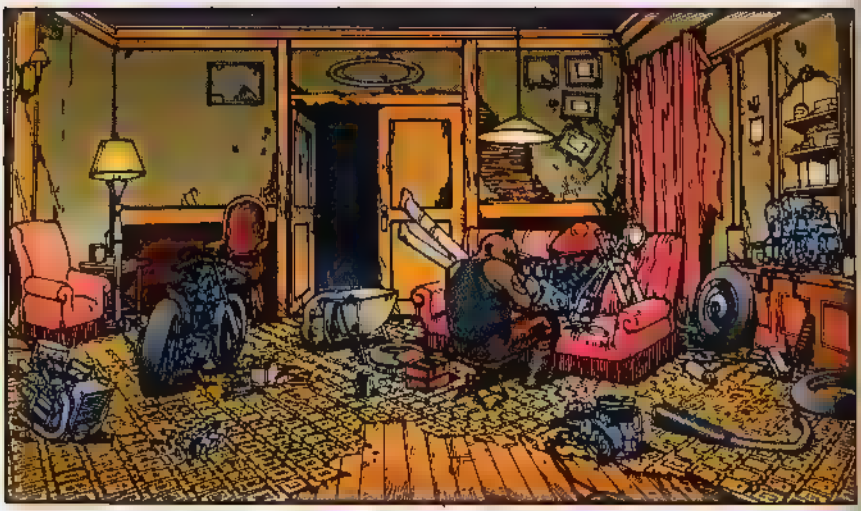
ONLY... I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING WORTH BARTERING.

BE REA.. WHERE RE WE GONNA FIND AN OPEN STORE THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
YOU MEAN..

..WE RE GOING TO THE THIEVES' QUARTER?

WHOA
NOW I SEE
HEY! I'M BACK! IS HE AROUND ?!
AN OLD FRIEND, YESTERDAY HE FELL OUT OF THE SKY
HOW DO Y'DO? PLEASED T'MEET YOU
THIS WAY
WOW
YEAH INSIDE WHO'S THAT W TH YOU ?
HOTEL

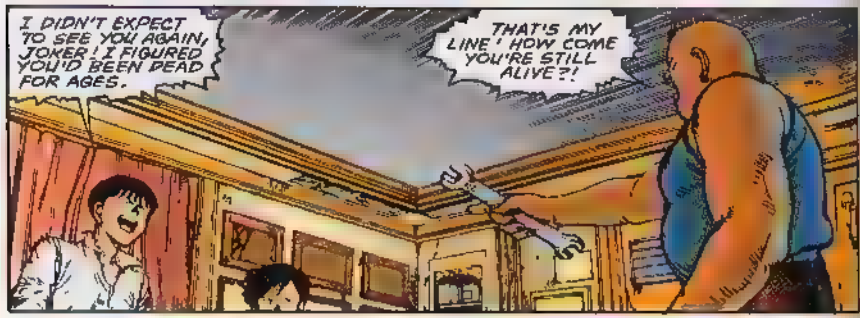
NOT DEAD YET, HUNH, KA.?
YO.
IS IT TRUE?! DID THOSE TOKYO EMPIRE BASTARDS...
...MURDER LADY MIYAKO?!
AN' IS THE MIGHTY AKIRA COMING AFTER US NEXT?
TOTAL BULLSHIT LADY MIYAKO'S FINE. THEY GOT THEIR ASSES KICKED AN THEY RAN
OVER HERE KANEDA
TOLD YOU SO
MEET MY PAL.



HUNH?

JO--
-JO
--JO-
DON'T BITE YOUR TONGUE

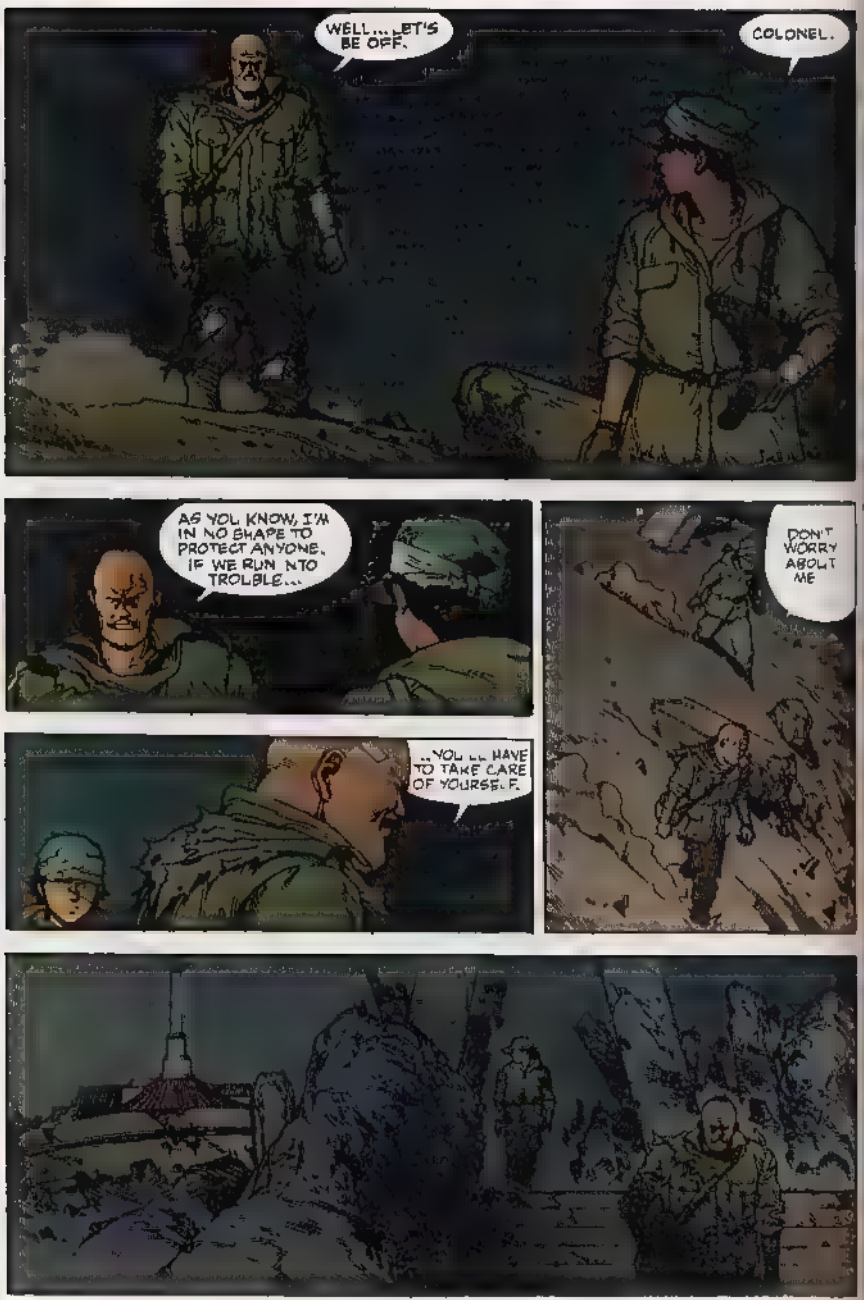
KANEDA...?


I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU AGAIN, JOKER! I FIGURED YOU'D BEEN DEAD FOR AGES.
THAT'S MY LINE! HOW COME YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?!

AAH-CHOO!
...AFTER I GOT ARRESTED, THEY PUT US BOTH IN THE SAME DORM AT THE R SO-CALLED REHABILITATION FAC. LITY
WHEN THE CITY COLLAPSED, A WALL FELL IN ON ME I'D HAVE DIED THERE...
...F HE HADN T DWG ME OUT.
SPECIALLY WHEN WE'RE ALL AFTER THE SAME TARGET! YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING, KANEDA?
WELL... WE HAD OUR TROUBLES W TH EACH OTHER N THE PAST.
...BUT GUYS LIKE US SHOULD ST CK TOGETHER
TETSUO...?
YES!
I'D DO ANYTHING TO GET THAT GUY!

FOR WHAT HE DID TO MY FRIENDS... AND FOR MYSELF!
ALL RIGHT! I'M WITH YOU!
YEA--!
...CLOTHES. . ?
BUT FIRST...
YOU WANT SOME CLOTHES, RIGHT?
WHAT?
.....
WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

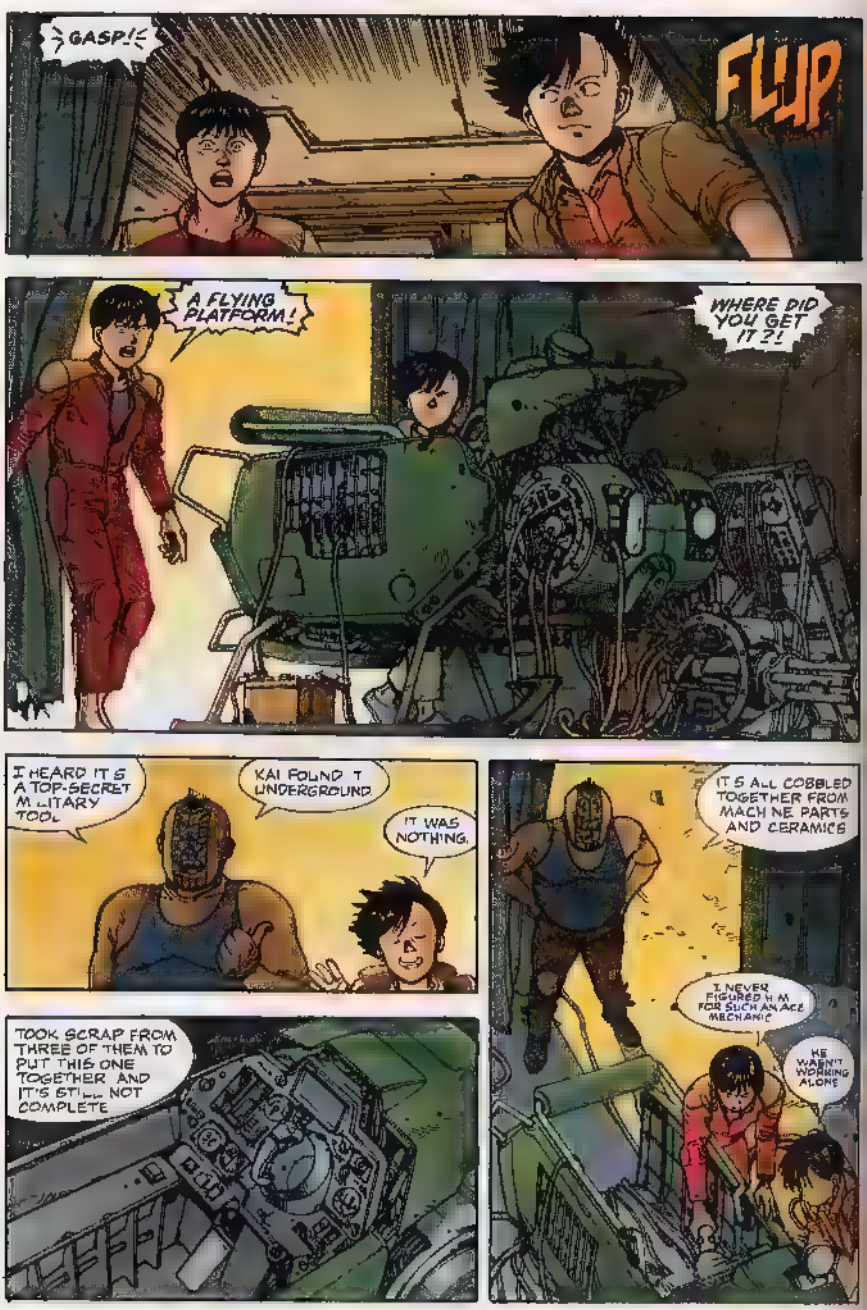
I've gone to find Chigoke
Kay

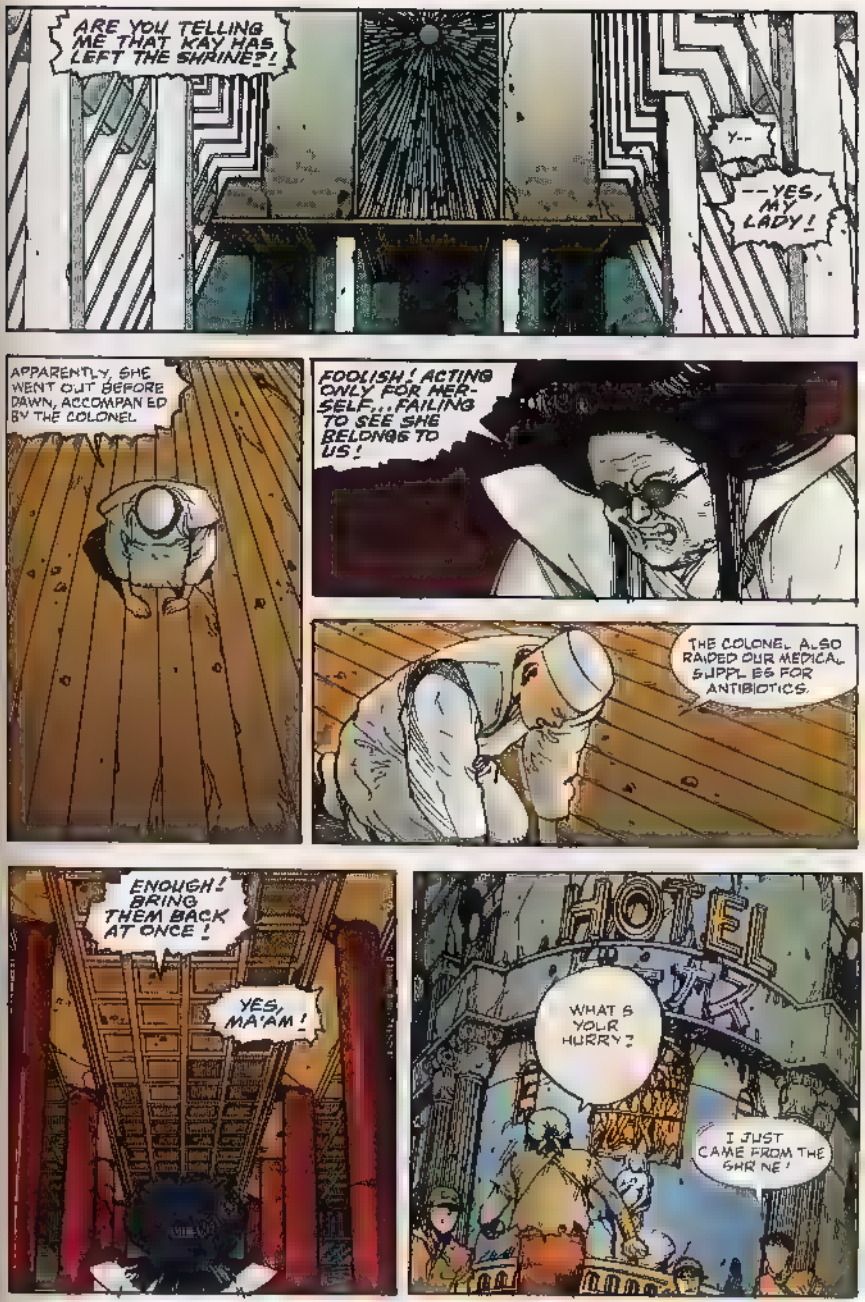

WELL... LET'S BE OFF.
COLONEL.
AS YOU KNOW, I'M IN NO SHAPE TO PROTECT ANYONE. IF WE RUN INTO TROUBLE...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
...YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

ROCKET GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS...? THAT MEANS A FULL-SCALE WAR.
NO... NO... IT JUST WASN'T ME
IT WAS THE EMPIRE BROUGHT OUT EVERY WEAPON IN THE R ARMORY
MAYBE THIS ONE...
HOW DOES TETSUO FIT INTO ALL THIS?
YOU SAID HE HAD NO CONNECTION WITH THAT ARMY?
LAST I HEARD, HE'D BEEN DOING A LOT OF DRUGS. WHEN I SAW HIM, HE WAS TOTALLY STRUNG OUT.
SOUNDS LIKE HE'S FORGOTTEN THAT A HEAD BELONGS ON TOP OF A BODY.
FLIP FLOP
HUNH?
ZZIP
CHECK IT OUT! THIS JUMPSUIT FITS LIKE IT WAS MADE FOR ME!
I'LL TAKE IT!

LET YOU HAVE IT AT A DIS-COUNT ...
SAY... $1,800.00.
PAD
WHAT?! SINCE WHEN ARE YOU SUCH A CAPITAL-IST PIG?
YOU WERE A REAL MAN, LEADER OF THE CLOWN GANG!
AND YOU'VE LET YOURSELF BECOME A MONEY-GRUBBING HABERDASHER! WHAT A DIS-GRACE!
WHAT D'YOU MEAN, I CAN'T HAVE THE BOOTS!
IF YOU HAD ANY HONOR LEFT, YOU'D GIVE ME THE ENTIRE OUTFIT!
YOU CAN HAVE THE BOOTS WHEN THE COVER-ALL'S PAID FOR.
KANEDA..
C'MERE.
HUNH?
WHAT'S ALL THIS?
ISN'T IT GREAT?

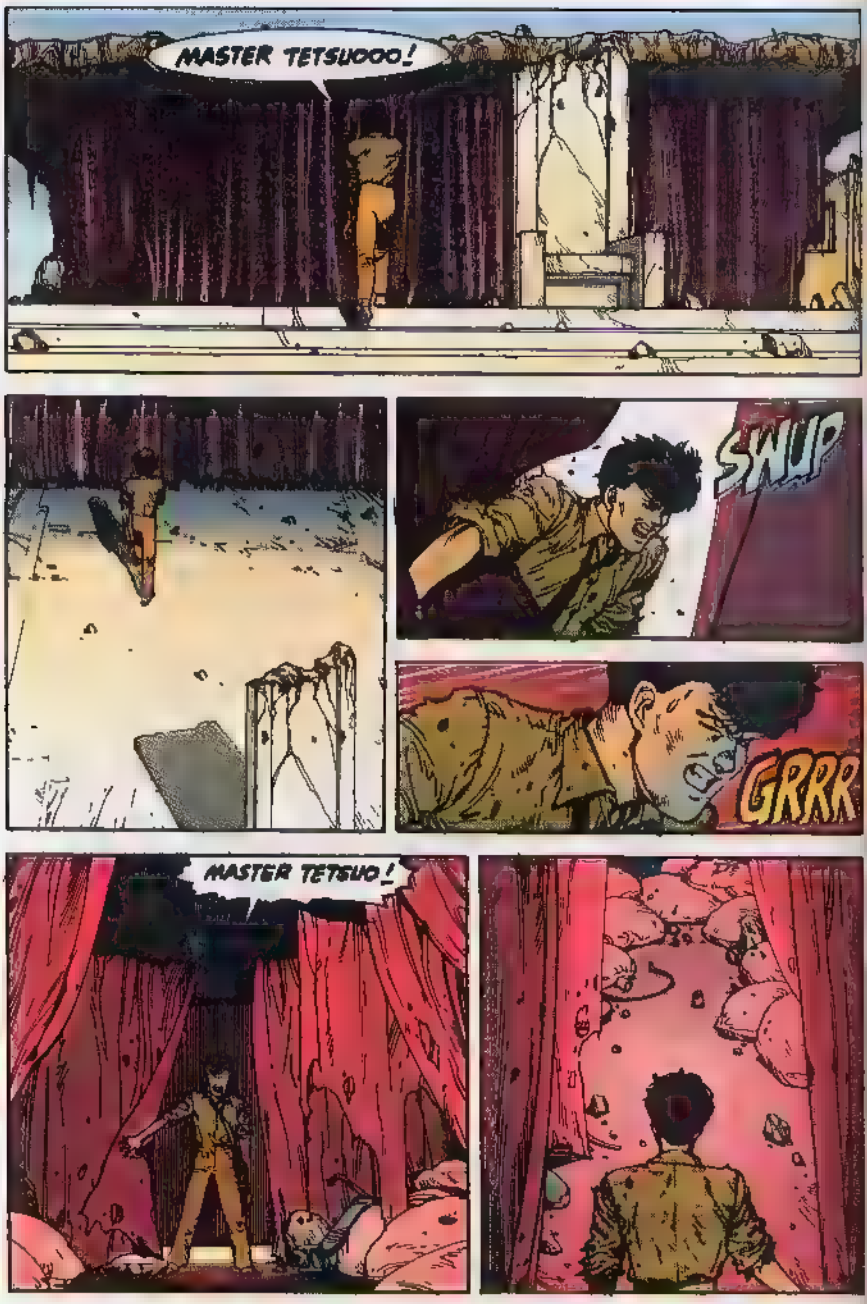
DO THESE THINGS RUN?
JUST GAS 'EM UP
I CANN BA_ZED JUNKERS TO PUT THEM TOGETHER... ONE OF 'EM'S GOT PARTS FROM TWENTY D;FFERENT B.KES.
LOOK AT THIS ONE IT'S GOT DOUBLE ITS OR.G NAL HORSE POWER
.....
WOW!
IT'S A WORK OF ART
IF YOU THINK THAT'S HOT, WAIT'LL YOU SEE WHAT'S BEH ND THE C'RTAIN


GASP!
FLIP
A FLYING PLATFORM!
WHERE DID YOU GET IT?!
I HEARD IT'S A TOP-SECRET MILITARY TOOL
KAI FOUND IT UNDERGROUND
IT WAS NOTHING.
IT'S ALL COBBLED TOGETHER FROM MACHINE PARTS AND CERAMICS
I NEVER FIGURED HIM FOR SUCH AN ACE MECHANIC
HE WASN'T WORKING ALONE
TOOK SCRAP FROM THREE OF THEM TO PUT THIS ONE TOGETHER AND IT'S STILL NOT COMPLETE


ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT KAY HAS LEFT THE SHRINE?!
Y--
--YES, MY LADY!
APPARENTLY, SHE WENT OUT BEFORE DAWN, ACCOMPANIED BY THE COLONEL.
FOOLISH! ACTING ONLY FOR HERSELF...FAILING TO SEE SHE BELONGS TO US!
THE COLONEL ALSO RAIDED OUR MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR ANTIBIOTICS.
ENOUGH! BRING THEM BACK AT ONCE!
YES, MA'AM!
HOTEL
WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?
I JUST CAME FROM THE SHRINE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN--
--MIYAKO WANTS ME?!
HER MEN ARE LOOKING ALL OVER THE PLACE.
HOW COME?
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S GOT SOMETHING TO DO WITH A GIRL NAMED KAY WHO TOOK OFF OR DISAPPEARED.
...KAY.. ?
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING

I SEE A WOMAN...
..AND A WOUNDED MAN.


MASTER TETSUOOO!
SWUP
GRRR
MASTER TETSUO!

OH!
WHERE IS MASTER TETSUO? AND WHERE HAS LORD AKIRA GOTTEN TO?
I DON'T KNOW. THEY WERE TOGETHER... AND THEN THEY SUDDENLY VANISHED
YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING THEIR WHEREABOUTS AT ALL TIMES!
KRAK
HUNH?
RRUMBLE

NEXT ISSUE: **VISION UNDERGROUND**

## AKIRA: the movie AN UPDATE

The English-language version of the animated film **AKIRA** will play in the following cities during the months of September and October

**BROOKLINE, MA (BOSTON AREA)**
**COOLIDGE CORNER THEATER**
September 3—open ended

**KEENE, NH**
**PUTNAM SCREENING ROOM**
September 7—September 9

**BALTIMORE, MD**
**BALTIMORE FILM FORUM, BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART**
September 13—14

**WICHITA, KS**
**MALL THEATER**
September 15 only

**WATERVILLE, ME**
**RAILROAD SQUARE CINEMA**
September 14—20

**NORTHHAMPTON, MA**
**PLEASANT STREET THEATER**
September 19—25

**MONTGOMERY, AL**
**CAPRI THEATER**
September 21—27

**ANN ARBOR, MI.**
**MICHIGAN THEATER**
September 28—30

**INDIANAPOLIS, IN**
**IRVING THEATER**
September 28—October 4

**LONDON, ENGLAND**
**SCALA CINEMA**
September 22 only

**NEW YORK, NY**
**THE NEW YORK FILM FORUM**
October 19—November 1

Also in October, **AKIRA** is opening in **Toronto** at the **Paradise Theater** and in **Ottawa** at the **Bytowne Theater.**

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Temperature Regulation

Humidity Monitoring

Air Circulation System

Filtration and Purification

Ventilation Requirements

Emergency Backup Systems

Power Supply

Lighting

Fire Safety

Security Measures

Access Control

Surveillance Cameras

Alarm Systems

Maintenance Schedule

Cleaning Procedures

Pest Control

Waste Disposal

Recycling Program

Energy Efficiency

Water Conservation

Landscaping

Parking Facilities

Public Transportation Access

Bicycle Storage

Accessibility for Disabled Persons

Signage

Visitor Information

Guided Tours

Educational Programs

Volunteer Opportunities

Membership Benefits

Donations

Fundraising Events

Gift Shop

Restaurant

Restrooms

Emergency Exits

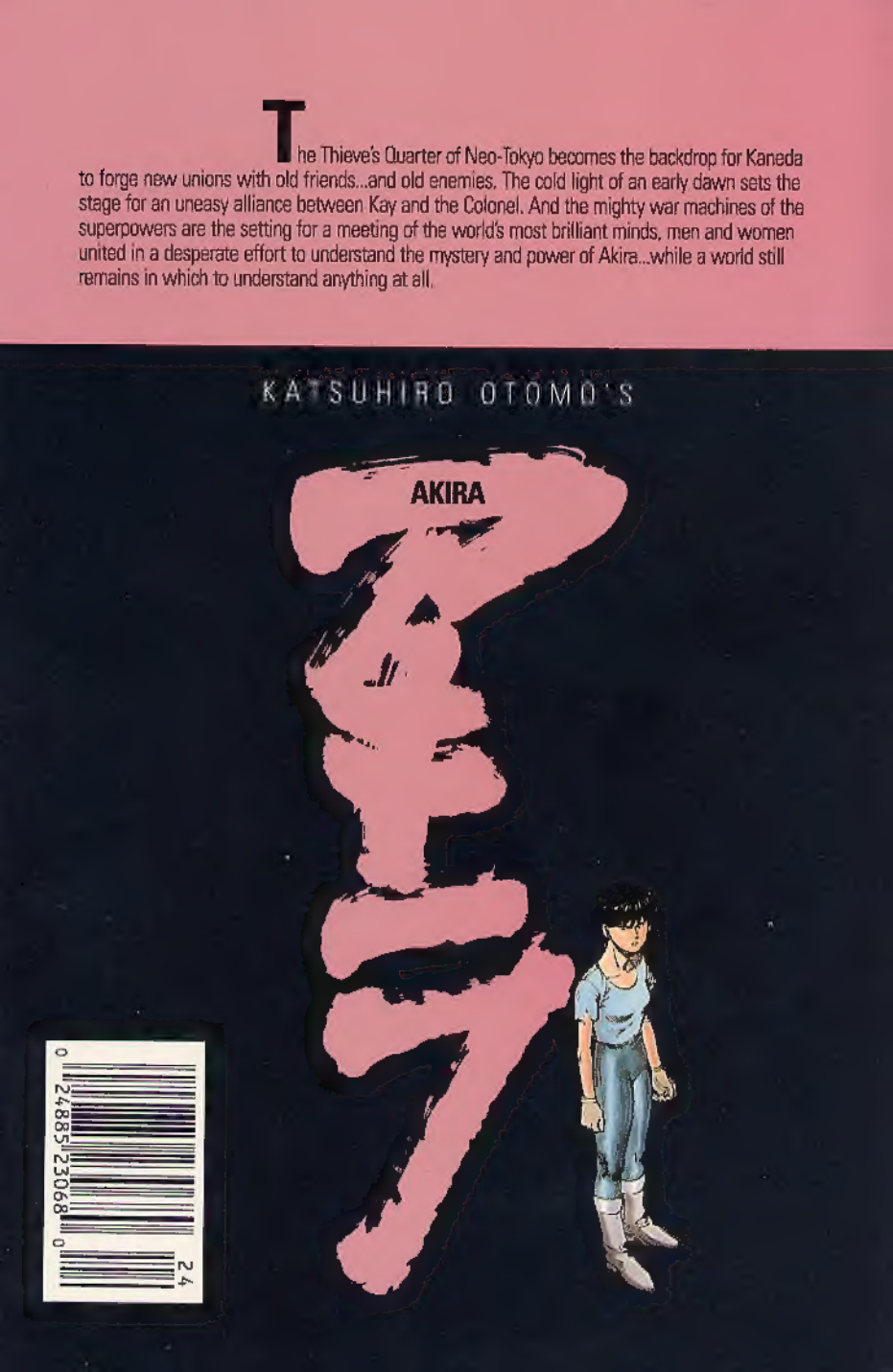
Evacuation Plan

Contact Information

The Thieve's Quarter of Neo-Tokyo becomes the backdrop for Kaneda to forge new unions with old friends...and old enemies. The cold light of an early dawn sets the stage for an uneasy alliance between Kay and the Colonel. And the mighty war machines of the superpowers are the setting for a meeting of the world's most brilliant minds, men and women united in a desperate effort to understand the mystery and power of Akira...while a world still remains in which to understand anything at all.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO'S

AKIRA



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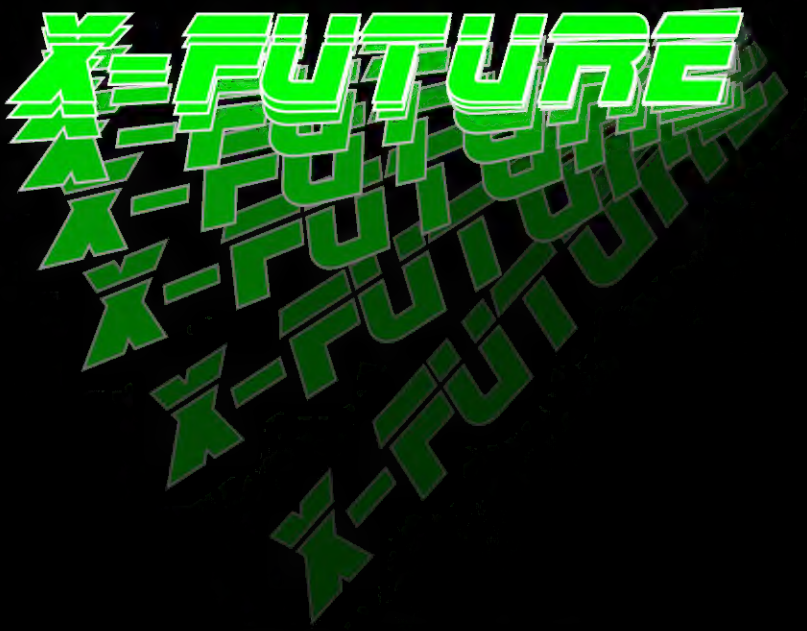
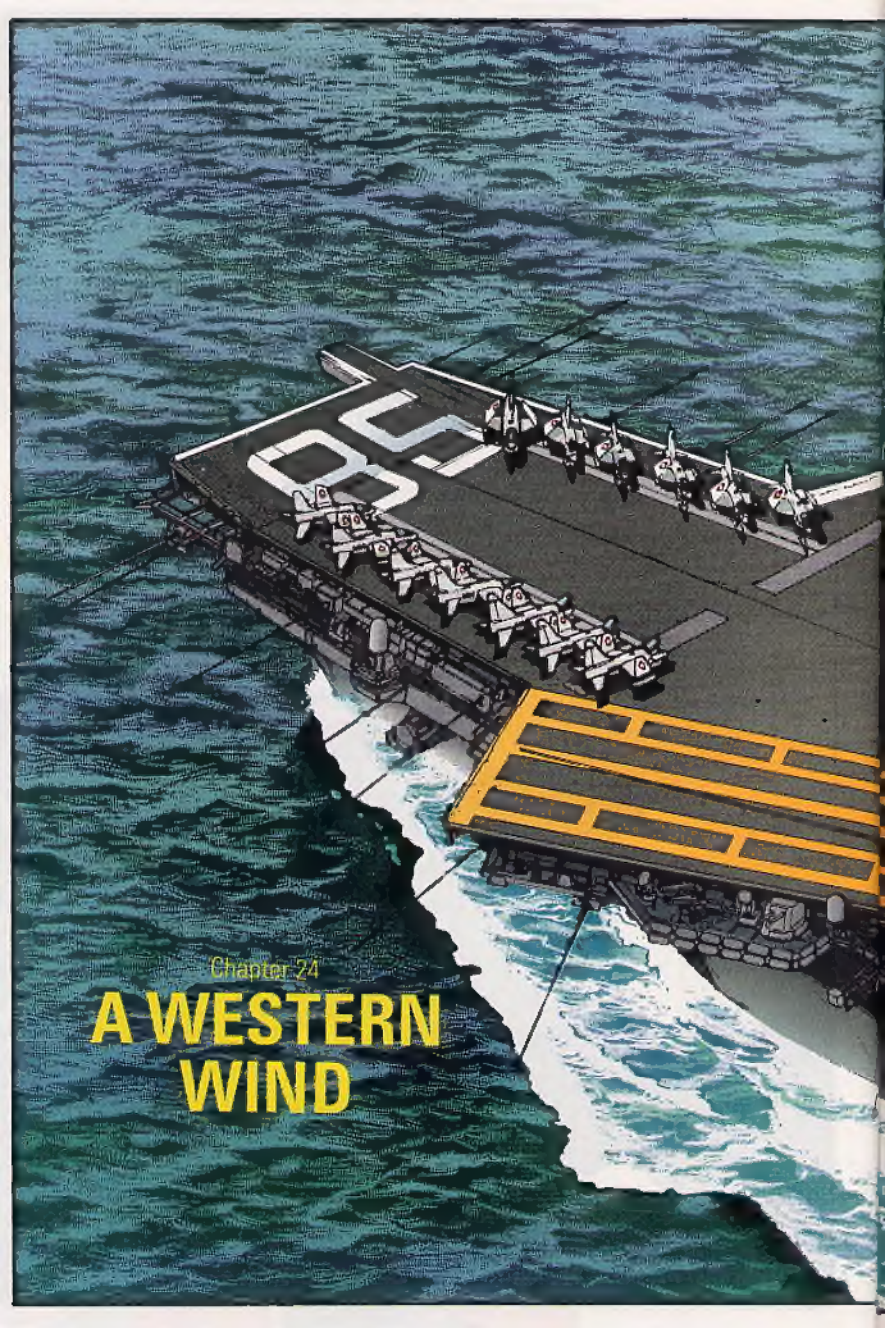



I love um

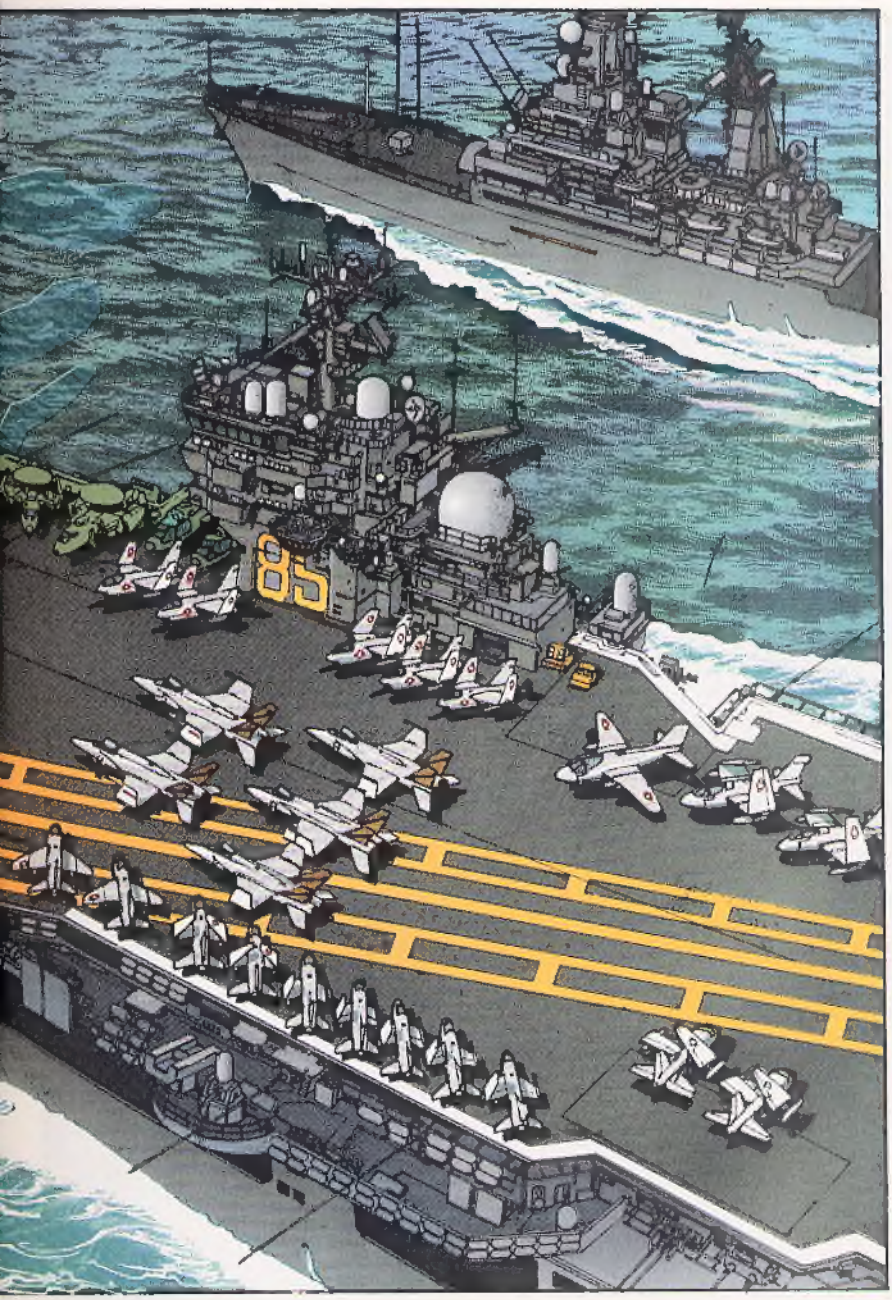
I buy um

I preserve um



Chapter 24

# A WESTERN WIND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